SIMPSON:

RECORDS OF AN ANCIENT YEOMAN FAMILY OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

1544 - 1922

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BREVET-COLONEL STEPHEN SIMPSON,
M.A., T.D., D.L.

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Records of an Ancient Yeoman Family of the West Riding of Yorkshire 1544—1922

BY
BREVET-COLONEL STEPHEN SIMPSON, T.D.
Late Royal Field Artillery, Territorial Army.
M.A., St. John's College, Oxford.
D.L. of the County Palatine of Lancaster.

PRINTED BY
BEMROSE & SONS LIMITED, DERBY AND LONDON
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PREFACE.

IN the following pages I have endeavoured to trace the history of my family, in order to discover who my ancestors really were, and not in any way to establish a claim to Norman blood.

With a common name like Simpson, it has been an extremely difficult task. Anyone not accustomed to pedigree research is at once struck with the small percentage of people who know the Christian names of their great-grandparents.

Many people are now taking a serious interest in their pedigrees, owing, no doubt, to the fact that the horizon of human interest has been widening everywhere, and that the love for the study of ancestry has developed with the general love of information, which is everywhere steadily growing. Increase of prosperity, too, makes a man desire to know something of his forbears. Pedigree hunting is not now a sign of pride and pretension, but is simply dictated by the desire to know whatever can be known.

I have taken these pains, not for the present age, but for a future. Many things which were known to our grandsires are lost to us, and our grandchildren will search in vain for many facts which to us are most familiar.

I must acknowledge that my success in collecting the various details I have recorded is due to the many kind friends who have helped me, especially the following:—Sir Henry Farnham Burke, K.C.V.O., C.B., Garter Principal King of Arms, Heralds' College, London; Col. J. W. R. Parker, C.B., D.L., F.S.A., of Browsholme Hall, Yorkshire; the late Rector of Slaidburn; and the Vicar of Gisburne; also the numerous members of the family who have supplied me with information, and allowed me to inspect the family papers in their possession.

Preston, Lancashire.
1922.

STEPHEN SIMPSON,
Brevet-Colonel.

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CHAPTER I.

The Name.

IN an article on the subject of surnames, I find it stated that they were not known in England until after the Norman Conquest, and even then it took hundreds of years before the peasantry assumed them. They took them more or less by chance, and the numbers of Johnsons, Thomsons and similar surnames go to prove how many began by simply adding "son" to their fathers' Christian names.

The Scottish "Macs" and the Irish "O's" gained their surnames in similar fashion, for Macdonald merely means "son of Donald" and O'Donnell the same thing.

The surname Symson, Simson, Sympson or Simpson, is Simon's son. It is probable that the name was originally written Sim*f*son, *i.e.*, with a long "*f*" in front of a small "s," the double "s" being intended to indicate a capital letter "S," in the same way that the families of ffarington, ffrench, ffoljambe, and others still use the double small letters instead of a capital letter. Later the long "*f*" became a "p," which is intrusive, as in Thompson. It is quite certain that the families of the name were not all of the same stock, and that numerous distinct families of Simpson sprang up in various parts of the country at different times.

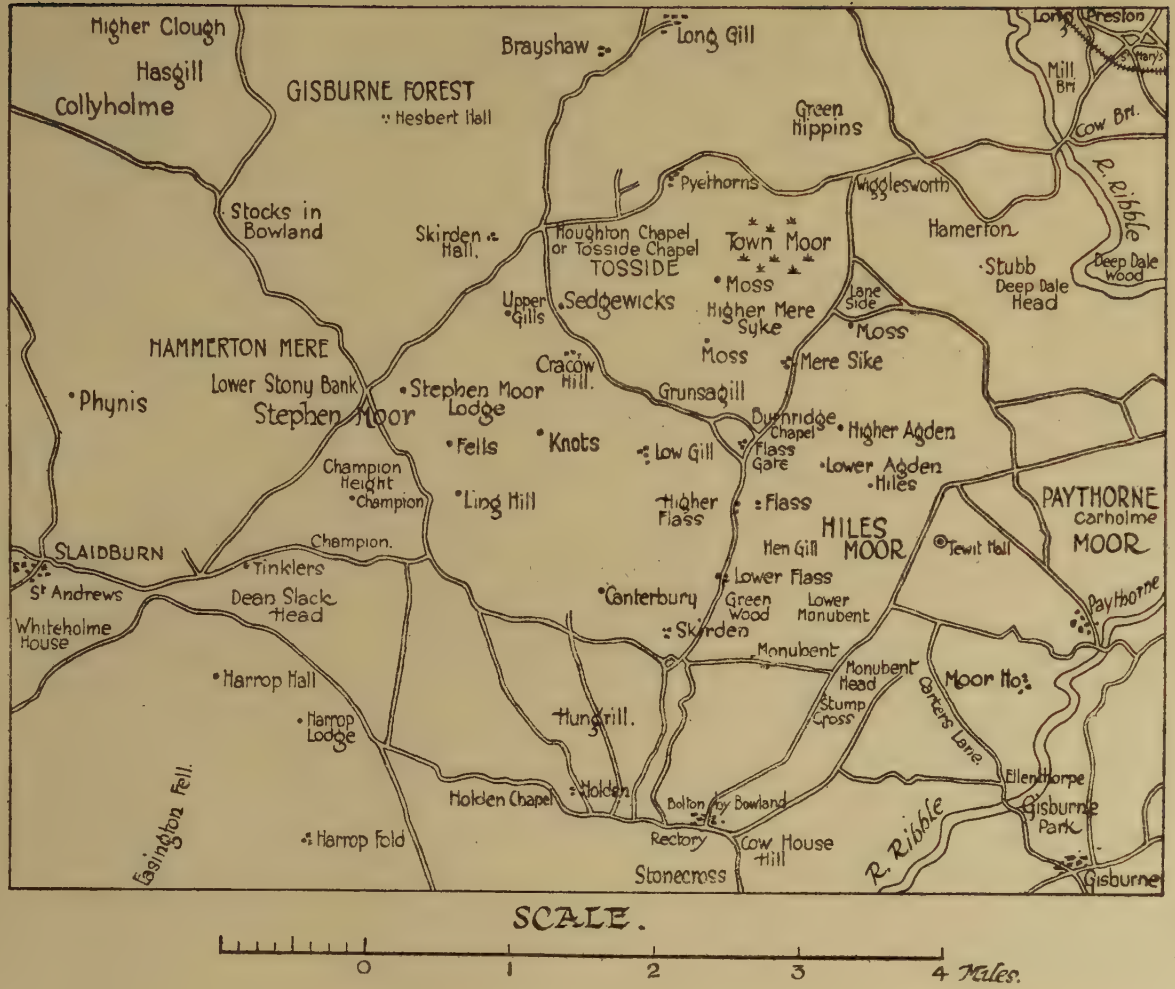
Of the Yorkshire Simpsons, one family is stated to have descended from Archil, a Saxon Thane, in the time of Edward the Confessor. He possessed the manor of Clint, and his descendants, living in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, called themselves "de Clynt." A member of this family was Symon, son of William de Clynt, 1300. Symon's son came to be known as Symson. This family afterwards had their seat at Castle Lodge, Knaresborough, Yorkshire, and their Pedigree is recorded in Burke's *Landed Gentry*.

Another family lived at Foston Hall, in Yorkshire, and there are many others in the County. I now propose to treat in the following chapters, of one of them, an ancient yeoman family, settled in Gisburne forest, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, for three centuries, and from which I am descended, dating back to the days of Henry VIII.

CHAPTER II.

Gisburne Forest.

GISBURNE forest, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, is a large tract of wild country, now thinly wooded, on the high ground north-west of Gisburne. It includes the hamlet of Houghton Chapel, or Tosside and Owlshaw, and contains 4,859 acres 0 roods 34 perches. The forest originally belonged to the Lord of the Percy fee, but the Abbot and Convent of Salley had the wood and herbage. The site and demesnes of this house, together with all manors, messuages, etc., thereto belonging, including Gisburne forest, were granted by King Henry VIII., thirtieth year, to Sir Arthur Darcy, Kt., to be held *in capite* by Knight's service. The first member of the family of Simpson of Gisburne forest, of whom there is any definite record, is John Symsone, *alias* Jenkine, of the Mearesicke in Gisburne, husbandman. The husbandmen were the tenant farmers under the lord of the manor; they had fixity of tenure, but had to perform certain suits and services in respect of their holdings. Three generations of the family occupied Mearesicke with the licence of the lord of the manor. The existing deeds of the manor date from the seventeenth century, and one of them is of James I.; it is a very long document, which records depositions of old inhabitants, giving their names, residences, and ages, relating to a composition concerning lands, late the property of the Abbot of Salley, but contains no mention of "Simpson." Another long document, dated 1607, is a demise of Lower Aigden, from Sir Francis Darcy of Isleworth, Middlesex, for 2,000 years, to Ralph Core of Aigden, in the forest of Gisburne. The manor was later claimed by Thomas Brome, Esq. of Burton-upon-Trent, as owner of the principal estate in Gisburne forest, which was devised by Sir Robert Burdett (the late Baroness Burdett Coutts' family) of Bramcote, Warwick, Bart., to his third wife, Brome, who gave it to her relation above mentioned. Among the records of the manor is an ms. pedigree of Brome of Lapworth, and of Brome Place, Warwick, from *temp.* Edward III., together with a painting of the Brome arms. The last of the Brome family to own the manor was Henry Selleck Brome, Esq. of Berthddan, in the parish of Llandiman, Montgomery, by whose will, dated 13th of January, 1834, the manor with lands, etc., descended to his nephew, Thomas William Hare, Esq. Mr. G. K. Charlesworth of Settle, solicitor, is the



SCALE.

0 1 2 3 4 Miles.

steward of the manor, and holds all the documents and summons a Court Leet of the manor twice annually, but there are no early Court rolls or Leet records prior to the nineteenth century. The properties within the manor are mostly small freeholds or very long leaseholds. I have not been able to discover any strictly copyholds or Court Baron records of surrender and admittance, which are so valuable genealogically.

As regards the people residing in the district, and their character, Mrs. Gaskell, in her life of Charlotte Brontë, says:—

"Even an inhabitant of the neighbouring County of Lancaster is struck by the peculiar force of character which the Yorkshiremen display. This makes them interesting as a race; while at the same time, as individuals, the remarkable degree of self-sufficiency they possess gives them an air of independence rather apt to repel a stranger. I use this expression 'self sufficiency' in the largest sense. Conscious of the strong sagacity and the dogged power of will which seem almost the birthright of the natives of the West Riding, each man relies upon himself, and seeks no help at the hands of his neighbour. From rarely requiring the assistance of others, he comes to doubt the power of bestowing it; from the general success of his efforts, he grows to depend upon them and to over-esteem his own energy and power. He belongs to that keen yet short-sighted class who consider suspicion of all whose honesty is not proved as a sign of wisdom. The practical qualities of a man are held in great respect; but the want of faith in strangers and untried modes of action extends itself even to the manner in which the virtues are regarded; and if they produce no immediate and tangible result, they are rather put aside as unfit for this busy, striving world, especially if they are more of a passive than an active character. The affections are strong and their foundations lie deep; but they are not—such affections seldom are—wide-spreading; nor do they shew themselves on the surface. Indeed there is little display of any of the amenities of life among this wild, rough population. Their accost is curt, their accent and tone of speech blunt and harsh. Something of this may, probably, be attributed to the freedom of mountain air and of isolated hillside life. They have a quick perception of character and a keen sense of humour; the dwellers among them must be prepared for certain uncomplimentary, though most likely true, observations pithyly expressed. Their feelings are not easily roused, but their duration is lasting. Hence there is much close friendship and faithful service.

"From the same cause come also enduring grudges, in some cases amounting to hatred which occasionally has been bequeathed from generation to generation. The West Riding men are sleuth-hounds in pursuit of money.

"These men are keen and shrewd; faithful and persevering in following out a good purpose, fell in tracking an evil one. They are not emotional;

they are not easily made into friends or enemies; but once lovers or haters it is difficult to change their feelings. They are a powerful race both in mind and body, both for good and for evil."

John Symsone, *alias* Jenkine, was born early in the sixteenth century, probably about the year 1510, just after Henry VIII. came to the throne. The termination "kin" in "Jenkine" is diminutive, being derived from the Flemish. Thus Jenkine stands for little John. There is no doubt his father's name was also John, but no trace of his parentage has been discovered. There are many instances of the name Jenkin being so used, *e.g.*, in the will of Anne Wilkinson of Nappaye, parish of Gisburne, widow, dated 16th May, 1558, proved at York, the testatrix mentions "John Wilkingson, otherwise called Jenkyn Wilkinson my son." "Jenkins Symson" was a witness to the will, dated 16th October, 1544, and proved at York, of Rawlyne Carr of the parish of Gisburne. His own will, which bears date 12th April, 1578, and in which he describes himself as being "of good and perfect remembrance praysed be God, but groweth into old aige," and wherein he gave, "all that my whole tytle, intrest and tenante righte of my tenemente called the Mearesicke unto Richard Symsone my sone wth the lycence of the landlord thereof," was proved at York, 7th May, 1586. He was buried, as he requested in his will, in the parish churchyard at Gisburne, 8th April, 1586. His son Richard succeeded him at his farm and occupied it for about eleven years. In his will, dated 3rd July, 1597, evidently made on his death-bed, he mentions his eldest son John, to whom he gave the lease of his tenement; also Richard, his eldest son's son. He was buried at Gisburne two days later. The farm was next in the occupation of John Simpson, the eldest son of Richard, who married Agnes, daughter of Henry Foster of Hengill, a farm also in Gisburne forest. By his will, dated 27th December, 1614, he gave half of his tenement to his wife, the other half to his son Richard, and the residue of his estate to his children, who are not named. He was also buried at Gisburne, 17th February, 1614-15.* I think it was his widow who married Stephen Stoute on 25th November, 1619, at Gisburne.

It has not been discovered whether Richard Simpson retained possession of the farm after the death of his father. He was married and left issue. In the burial register at Gisburne, 19th January, 1645-6, he was described as "of Forest."

On the north side of the farm, now called Meresyke, and over the door leading into the barn, just under a slab forming a kind of porch, is a curious carved stone. On the dexter side there is an animal, apparently a griffin

* At this time the legal year began on 25th March. The style was not altered until the year 1752, which year began on the 1st of January, and the 3rd of September was reckoned as the 14th. The customary mode of marking the year during the months of January and February and up to the 24th of March was as in the text.

segreant, and on the sinister side an animal resembling a lion rampant, flanked
G
by initials . . .A and the date 1720; in the centre is a fleur-de-lys and below another fleur-de-lys and scroll. The fleurs-de-lys are merely for ornamentation, but the animals appear to be heraldic. The initials are probably those of a Grimshaw and his wife, the animal on the dexter side—a griffin segreant—as borne in the Grimshaw arms. All the Yorkshire Simpsons had a lion rampant in their arms, so it is not unlikely that a Grimshaw married a Simpson and owned the farm at that time. The name of another farm adjoining Meresyke, now owned by Mr. James Trickett, of Lench House, Waterfoot, Lancashire, proves the connection of the Simpson family with the district in early days. In a deed poll, dated 27th March, 1669, this farm is described as "all that messuage or tenement lying and being at Meersike called Sympsons of Moss, within the forest of Gisburne in the possession of John Swinglehirst the elder, purchased of Sir Charles Wheler of Fulham, co. Middlesex Bart. and Jane Dorothy his wife, Sir Robert Bindloss of Borwick Hall co. Lancaster Bart., Hugh May of Rawmell co. Sussex, Esq., and Robert Roper of Trinden co. Gloucester, gentleman for £1735 . 5 . 3," and the same description occurs in an Indenture of 9th October, 1762.

In a lease of this farm of 14th April, 1833, two of the nineteen closes of arable meadow and pasture land forming part of the farm are named as follows:—The higher "Stephen" field and the "Stephen" meadow. The name "Stephen" is significant. Possibly the farm was at one time in the possession or occupation of John Simpson of Mearesicke, and the fields may have been so called after his son Stephen, the first of the family of that name.

This son, Stephen, lived at Hengill, another farm in Gisburne forest, which apparently came into his possession from his connection with the Foster family. In 1629 he married Margaret Foster, probably his cousin, and daughter of Thomas Foster of Hengill. Evidently he was one of the children of John Simpson of Mearesicke, although he is not mentioned by name in his father's will, nor is his baptism recorded at Gisburne. His parentage is, however, proved by the will of his maternal aunt, Maud Foster of Overmarsike, in Gisburne, spinster, dated 23rd October, 1610, and proved at York, 31st October, 1612, in which she mentions her nephews and nieces, Stephen Simpson, Henry Simpson, William Simpson, Jennett Simpson, and Elizabeth Simpson "and other the rest I am aunte unto," her sister Agnes Simpson and her brother-in-law John Simpson. Stephen Simpson of Hengill died intestate, and was buried at Gisburne, 16th February, 1668-9. By his wife Margaret, who predeceased him, he had, in addition to two daughters, three sons—Thomas, who succeeded to Hengill; William of Flass, another farm in Gisburne forest; and Stephen, who also lived at Hengill, and died a bachelor. The last-named son made his will dated 3rd February, 1698-9,

CARVED STONE OVER THE DOOR OF BARN AT MERESYKE.

First known Residence of the Simpson Family.

which was proved at York, 18th March, 1699, and therein gave legacies to his nephews Stephen Simpson, son of his brother Thomas, and Stephen Simpson, son of his brother William.

Unfortunately, no deeds of Hengill, prior to the year 1708, are in existence. The farm was then in the possession of Stephen Simpson, the son of Thomas Simpson of Hengill, and grandson of Stephen Simpson of the same place, having been formerly purchased from Sir Francis Darcy of Bramford, Middlesex, and Dame Katherine his wife.

Stephen Simpson was described as a yeoman. The yeomen were the small landowners, and included not only farming owners, but lessees for lives and copyholders. They formed the intermediate class between the gentry and the labourers and artizans, the line of demarcation, however, being not drawn very distinctly. Bishop Latimer, in his famous sermon before King Edward VI., said his father was a yeoman, but had no land of his own. He rented his occupation at £4 a year, and was a tenant farmer. The definite restriction of the word to farmer owners is a comparatively modern usage of the nineteenth century. Stubbs, in his *Constitutional History*, vol. III., page 551, speaks of the yeomanry of the middle ages as a body which, in antiquity of possession and purity of extraction, was probably superior to

the classes that looked down upon it as ignoble. The yeomen were generally well to do, kept good houses, made wills and often remembered their poorer brethren in them. The decay of the class began when the large landowners bought up the small holdings, took them for trifling sums under the Inclosure Acts, and when the domestic industries of the country were destroyed by the factory system.

On the 5th April, 1725, Stephen Simpson sold Hengill (subject to a lease to himself for nineteen years at a rent of £18 . 10s . 0d. a year) for the augmentation of the Curacy of the Chapel of Clitheroe. The parties to the indenture were "Stephen Simpson of Hengill in the county of York gentleman of the first part, Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston in the County of Derby Esquire of the second part, the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne for the augmentation of the maintenance of the poor Clergy of the third part, and Thomas Taylor, clerk, curate of the Chapel of Clitheroe in the parish of Whalley in the County of Lancaster and Diocese of Chester of the fourth part." The purchase money was £400, of which sum Nathaniel Curzon and the Governors each paid £200. From the description "gentleman" in this deed, it would appear that Stephen Simpson was not a man of the ordinary

yeoman type; he was evidently of fair education and wrote a good hand. His signature to this deed, which is now in the possession of William Heaton of Hungrill, Bolton by Bolland, co. York, the present owner of the farm, is characteristic of a man of some determination. Afterwards, Stephen Simpson continued to occupy the farm, and died there in 1743. He had two daughters only by his wife Letticia, one died young and the other, Letticia, married Henry Windle of Otterburne, co. York. Hengill was in the possession of the family for over a hundred years.

At the same period, another Stephen Simpson, first cousin of the one of Hengill, also was living in the district. He was the son of William Simpson of Flass by his wife Jane Jackson of Mill Gill, Gisburne, and grandson of the first Stephen Simpson of Hengill. There are four farms in Gisburne bearing the name of Flass, viz., Higher Flass, Lower Flass, Flass Gate, and Flass. It is not known which farm was owned or occupied by William Simpson. This Stephen Simpson was of Moss, in the parish of Gisburne, cordwainer, when he administered to his mother's effects in 1707, and there is no doubt he was the same man as Stephen Simpson "de Forest," who married Margaret Priestley "de Tosside" at Gisburne in 1709. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries the cordwainer or worker in leather—the maker of boots and buskins, and even of leather bottels and beakers—was a very aristocrat among craftsmen. The wearing of footgear was then a sign of social status, and the maker was correspondingly important. In later times the cordwainers were the shoemakers, as distinguished from the cobblers, who were the shoe-patchers. The name cordwainer is derived from Cordova, because the cordwainer was a worker in Cordovan leather, a soft tanned leather now used for the upper part of shoes and obtained from Cordova, in Spain, where it was manufactured by the Moors.

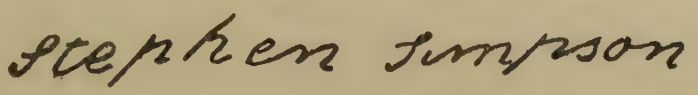
Stephen Simpson evidently did not pursue the calling of a cordwainer for any long period. He lived at Stub, a farm in the parish of Long Preston, in 1719, in which year his daughter Margaret was baptized and buried at Long Preston church; later, he moved to another farm, Cracow Hill, and became a yeoman; he occupied the last-named farm for over forty years. Here his son James died, and also his wife Margaret, and both were buried at Gisburne in 1725. He married secondly Isabella Brennand, but was soon again a widower; the marriage took place at Gisburne in 1729, and letters of administration of the effects of Isabella Simpson were granted in 1731-2 to her husband. The bondsmen were "her husband Stephen Simpson of Crake Hill in the forest of Gisburne, yeoman, Henry Priestley of Sawley Demain in the County of York, yeoman, and Lancelot Cotton of Skipton in the said County, gentleman."

Cracow Hill is situated in Gisburne forest, about one mile south of Tosside church and about six miles north-west of Gisburne. The house is

CRACOW HILL, GISBURNE FOREST.

still standing and is a good, well-built, long, low building of two storeys, with tiled roof. It is built of rough stone, which has been whitewashed, and was evidently erected at the latter end of the seventeenth century. Above the entrance is a stone on which is carved $\frac{M\ A}{W\ C}$ $\frac{I\ L}{16\ 91}$, the initials of the builder and his wife, and the date of the building. The deeds in existence date from 1723, but the name Simpson does not occur in any of them.

Stephen Simpson, by his wife Margaret, had three sons and one daughter (and other children who died young). The sons were Stephen, William, and Thomas, and the daughter was Sarah. Stephen was probably the eldest. He lived in the year 1751 at Champion, a farm in an outlying portion of Mitton Parish, co. York, and a few years later at Highfield, in the parish of Slaidburn. His wife, Ann, was buried at Slaidburn in 1753. He was, I think, the Stephen Simpson buried at Bolton by Bolland in 1789. It is not known whether he had any descendants. On the 22nd November, 1768, he was one of the witnesses at the marriage of John Harrison and Ann Parkinson at Long Preston church, the other witness being Robert Holgate.



An old book, William Burkitt's *New Testament*, published in 1760, has lately been discovered in the district, which formerly belonged to him. On the front page it is inscribed as follows:—

"Stephen Simpsons Book 1772.
William Simpson Book.
William Wildman Book. Pythorns.
Alice Wildman Book 1816."

The book was presented to me in 1913 by Mr. R. T. Wildman of Long Preston, during a visit with my nephew, Stephen Simpson of Low Abbey, near Lancaster, to the homes of our ancestors. It came to Mr. Wildman through his great-aunt Alice, whose name is in the book, a daughter of William Wildman of Pythorns, parish of Long Preston, by his wife Elizabeth, *née* Holgate, of Hole House, Wigglesworth, in the same parish. Mrs. Wildman was a sister of Robert Holgate, the above-mentioned witness, and probably was some connection of Stephen Simpson, the original owner of the book, or of his wife.

William, the second of the name in this family, son of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, was born in or about the year 1716, and from him I myself and the other Simpsons mentioned in the following chapters are descended. He was my great-great-grandfather.

Thomas, son of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, was born in the year 1722. He married by licence at Gargrave, co. York, 30th November, 1745, Alice Dobson of Mitton, co. York, spinster. She was a niece of Francis Priestley of Sawley, late of Bank Causey, in Grindleton, yeoman, and a legatee under his will, dated 22nd December, 1771, proved at York, 10th May, 1779. It is quite likely she was a relative of her husband before marriage, as his mother's maiden name was "Priestley." They had several children baptized at Bolton by Bolland. The eldest, Thomas, married Anne Bank, widow, at Gisburne, in 1782, and had one son, Thomas, who died young. Nothing further is known of this family.

Sarah, daughter of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, married John Fell of Stephen Moor, parish of Slaidburn, on 14th May, 1739, at Slaidburn. Her husband, John Fell, was the son of Thomas Fell of Ling Hill, parish of Bolton by Bolland, yeoman, by Isabel, his wife.

On the death of Thomas Fell, in April, 1751, Isabel Fell went to live at Champion with her daughter Margaret, wife of Ambrose Grimshaw, but only survived him until the following June, and in the same year Stephen Simpson, brother of Sarah Fell, also lived at Champion, as before mentioned. Sarah, wife of John Fell, died at Stephen Moor, 30th July, 1789, and was buried at Slaidburn. Her husband, John Fell, died two years later, aged 82 years. She had six children—three sons and three daughters, viz.: Roger of Lower House, parish of Gisburne, yeoman; Stephen of Blackburn, yeoman; John of Stephen Moor, yeoman; Isabella, wife of James Alston of Gill, parish of Bolton by Bolland, yeoman; Sarah, wife of Richard Bradley of Harrop, Forest of Bowland, yeoman; and Margaret, wife of Abraham Croasdale. The second son was named Stephen, after her father. In 1796, Thomas Simpson, nephew of Sarah Fell, and son of her brother Thomas, resided at Stephen Moor, probably to assist his cousin John Fell, who succeeded to the farm on the death of his father.

From the foregoing facts it will be seen that the connection between the two families of Simpson and Fell was evidently a very close one, Cracow Hill and Stephen Moor, their respective places of residence, being only about a mile apart, one in the parish of Gisburne and the other in the parish of Slaidburn. This intimacy was kept up for a considerable period, and there are letters extant, now in my possession, written by William Fell of Stephen Moor, yeoman, son of John Fell of the same place, in the years 1822-5, to his second cousin, Isaac Simpson of Chorley, co. Lancaster, clock and watch maker, who was my grandfather, and his sister Mary, my great-aunt, in which he begins, "Dear Cousin," or "Dear Relation." William Fell appears to have acted as agent for Isaac Simpson in the district. The following are copies of some of the letters. They may be interesting to the readers as typical of the style of expression used by the Yorkshire yeomen in the early

part of the nineteenth century, and also as shewing the prices of clocks and watches at that time:—

"DEAR RELATION,

"I have sent your book and Isaac box which I hope you[l] receive safe I receivd an Order for one 30 hours o Clock Chapter Figures Steel fingers and as hansom a face as you can and mak it a good one for the wholely depend on my word and send It as soon as you can you will receive the money when

£ s. d.

they receive the clock which will be 2 .. 16 .. 0 I have herd nothing about the payment of the money since I was at your house so no more Give my kind love to all friends and enquirers I shall endavour for more orders as much as I can St moor May th3 1822

"WM. FELL."

Letter addressed to:—

"Marey Simpson
"Sizer No 99 Friergate
"Preston with a box."

"DEAR RELATION,

"I have at the last received an order from Jos Tettlow of Skirden for a new watch about the size of $2\frac{1}{4}$[il] Diameter of the out case and flat face and Roman figures yallow face or white I had no orders but wether you think the hansomer and flint glafs and cap over the works and the out case to shut one edge over the other the whole is to be a good substancal watch for a gentleman farmer about the Value of 4 or 5 guineas he is not to a few shillin if it is a good one and if the watch answers the will have another his brother got a pattent Lever and it Did not answer and the look on my word from you for a good artkel and if the watch pleases him he will have his name and year of our lord inscribed some where thereon but you will have on opertunity to do this the watch is to a thin bodied on short pinions is his fancy please to send the watch as soon as you can to me you said something about people having them on trial but if they are good articles and can warant them I should think there will be no need for trial so Dear Isaac send a good and hansom article both for your good and mine and about my Clock face I perhaps shall see you over bfore I get one from you please to Give my kind respects to marey and her partner in life and either I or my father will be over in August if I here nothing from her before So no more at present hoping these will find you in good health as the leave us at pesent.

"Stephen moore July 1st. 1823."

Letter addressed to:—

"Mr.
"Isaac Simpson Clock &
"watchmaker Chorley."

"DEAR COUSIN,

"by this time you will have expected your butter which we should have sent last week but we was too late with it for the carrier you said in Janury would sute you we where afraid we shall have been to late for you pot $6\frac{1}{2}^{lb}$ butter 13^{lb} att $1^{s}/0^{d}$ a lb & pot 5^{d}. it is within the box.

"N.B. Mr. Joseph Tetlow Skirden has spoken to me several times about his watch not giving him satisfact in keeping time and going day and night it had the misforetune of the othe watch you had with you it lost a pin from the face within the works and it was within some time he got it taken out and then I thought I should here no more. but I herd again & again he said he would return It and I tould him I belived it was a good one when was put right after the pin taking out but still he would return it to exsang it for anothe and what he says in his letter I do not know but he wanted me to return It I told him he should return it himself and write what he pleased.

"N.B. I thought the watch might go very well and he had taken some second thought so I asked him to let me have It a piecee and I find it dose not keep time in the day and at night when It is wound up it is worse but I expect you will se the reason of that and so I could wiſh you to do with him if you can for your own Intrest in this country if he gets a watch to give satisfaction you will have a clock to make for his siſter which I belive you would have had the order for before this has brother & brotherinlaw has watchis that cost leſs money than his and give satisfaction and they laugh at him. it is not for no pericular respect I have for him more than another but that the things you and I confid in give satisfaction for our pleasure and so aswer him with his request as soon as you can if you can come in with it I read him your letter and he herd your propoſal for excang as you told him so no more hoping these will find you all well as they leave us at present

"from yours respectfully
"Wm. Fell.

"Stephen more
"Janʸ. 16th 1824.

"N.B. youl receive the watch in a small by my packing up and your butter and some feathers

"I did not receive the two shilling from him he told you he would not be within that or more if it gave pleasure."

Addressed at the back to:—

"Mr
"I Simpson Chorley
"Clock & watchmaker."

Edmondson
Latham.

It may also be noticed that John Fell, son of William Fell, was apprenticed to Isaac Simpson to learn clockmaking a few years later. Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill died there in 1766, and was the last of the family to be buried at Gisburne church. He must then have been of an

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, GISBURNE.

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, GISBURNE.

advanced age, probably over 80 years, for he was married in 1709, and two years earlier had administered to his mother's effects. No will of Stephen Simpson has been found, so probably he died intestate.

The parish church of Gisburne, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was for three centuries the burial place of the Simpson family. It is of early English architecture, built of fell stone, and except the short cylindrical columns of the choir, which are of the last years of Henry I., is probably not older than Henry VII. or Henry VIII. The register books commence in 1559, and contain very numerous entries of "Simpson." No old tablets in the church or tombstones in the churchyard have been preserved, and the exact place of the Simpson burials cannot now be ascertained.

None of the children of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, except his daughter Margaret, who was baptized shortly before her death at Long Preston church, appear to have been baptized, either at Gisburne or at any of the neighbouring churches. This would lead us to suppose that the Simpson family, owing no doubt to the great distance of Gisburne forest from the parish church, and the apathy of the English clergy at that time, early embraced Nonconformity. In the introduction to Whitaker's *History of the Deanery of Craven*, which includes Gisburne forest, the learned writer says:—"It must not be dissembled that this district till very lately has not been distinguished for the piety or the labours of its clergy, and one fact is certain, let the cause be what it will, that in few parts of England have the churches been more negligently attended, in few has there appeared a more general indifference to religious duties."

It is stated that the origin of Nonconformity in the neighbourhood was due to a chance visit paid by the Revd. Oliver Heywood, the celebrated Nonconformist preacher, to a farm called Monibent Head, in Gisburne, when seeking shelter from his persecutors. Here he addressed a small congregation hastily gathered together. In those early days there were no separate sects as there are now, and the marriages and burials of Nonconformists continued to take place in the parish churches. The preachers performed baptisms, but oftentimes had to pay a small capitation fee to the parish priest for the privilege of being allowed to do so. Records of these baptisms were probably kept, but many of the early Nonconformist registers cannot now be traced. After the passing of the Toleration Act of 1689, Nonconformist meeting-houses were legalized under certain restrictions, and on 8th October in that year the house of J. Bullock of Sawley, and that of Henry Robinson of Tosside, were "registered for preachings." A chapel for the Independents was built in the year 1696 at Newton in Bowland, which is a few miles from Monibent Head. The Revd. Peter Walkden was in charge of this chapel from 1711 for more than a quarter of a century. In his Diary* are many

* Published by William Dobson, Preston, 1866.

references to the district and its inhabitants, but he does not mention any of the Simpsons of Gisburne forest. One or two extracts, however, will not be without interest, as they shew that the Fell family were Nonconformists at that time.

Under date 12th December, 1729, he writes:—

"Being preparation day at Newton, I got ready, and got my mare, and went direct to Newton, and put in my mare at Edward Parkinsons', warmed me, and got a penny pot of ale and toast; then went into chapel, and Thomas Fell came to me, and paid me his half years salary due at Martinmas and told me his son William's wife was drawing near the time of child bearing and he desired she should be prayed for. I promised to remember her. So I went into the pulpit and prayed."

1st January, 1730:—

"At Newton we put up our mares at Edward Parkinsons and got'em hay. So we got 2d in ale and I went into the chapel, and prayed; then baptized William Fell's daughter, calling her name Margaret."

23rd February, 1730:—

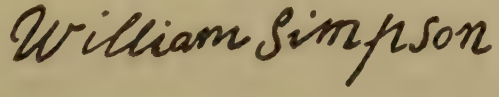
"I went (from Henry Woods's) to William Fells and found him ill still and I asked how the child Isabell did, and they said they hoped it was well for it was dead. I prayed with and for William Fell; then came direct to Thomas Fells and got refreshment there."

John Fell, son of John Fell of Stephen Moor, yeoman, by his wife Sarah, daughter of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, was appointed a trustee of Newton chapel in 1792. He married, 23rd April, 1783, at Slaidburn, Catherine Walkden of Clitheroe, probably a granddaughter of the Revd. Peter Walkden. In addition to their son William already referred to, they had three other sons and four daughters, viz.: John of Woodhouse, co. York, yeoman; Thomas of Wigglesworth; Stephen, who died in 1811, aged 18; Betty, wife of John Hothersall of Clitheroe; Sarah, wife of John Sanderson of Hill, co. York; Catherine, wife of Richard Atkinson of Newton, yeoman; and Mary, wife of Thomas Hanson of Knotts, co. York.

CHAPTER III.

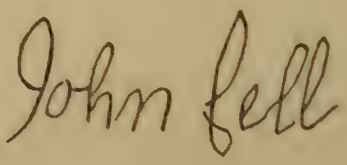
Migration of the Family into Lancashire.

FOR a continuation of the descent we must now turn to William, son of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, in Gisburne forest, yeoman, who was born about the year 1716. His baptism has not been discovered, although every register in the district has been carefully searched. There are no "Simpson" entries among the Baptisms in the Gisburne parish registers after 1695, and this fact is, I think, evidence that the family became Nonconformists about that time, as previously surmised. William Simpson married, on 7th April, 1743, at the parish church, Gisburne, Elizabeth Dewhurst, and both parties were described in the register as "of Aigden," a farm in Gisburne forest. The issue of the marriage was two sons, viz.: John, born about the



year 1744, and Stephen, born in 1752, the latter evidently so named after his grandfather. In 1748, William Simpson was a yeoman, living at Hiles, parish of Long Preston, and on the 27th May in that year he purchased from the trustees of Robert Dodgshon, late of Pay, in the township of Paythorne, yeoman, deceased, about twenty acres of land, called the Moor and the limes in the Indenture of Conveyance. Evidently the land was enclosed from Paythorne Moor, and in consequence William Simpson named the farm, which he afterwards built thereon, "Moor Close." He occupied the farm himself until about the year 1767, and sold it to Christopher Hartley of Barley, in the forest of Pendle, nine years later, his wife Elizabeth being a party to the conveyance. His second son, Stephen, was born at this farm. It is situate on high ground, at the edge of Paythorne Moor, 600 feet above

sea level, and about 200 yards from the road leading from Bolton by Bolland via Monibent Head to Hellifield. There is a large plateau in front of the farm, from which can be seen a most extensive view of the country to the south-east. The house is a small one, built of stone, but has large and commodious outbuildings. The name of the farm was changed to Tewit Hall, but is now known as Moor Hall. It belongs to Lord Ribblesdale. In addition to Moor Close, William Simpson also owned three cottages at Gisburne, which he bought on 24th April, 1766, soon after the death of his father, from John Hartley and Robert Hartley of Gisburne, yeomen. His brother-in-law, John Fell, was one of the witnesses to the Indenture of Conveyance. These cottages were sold after his death to Thomas Lister of Gisburne Park, Esq. (afterwards the first Lord Ribblesdale). The deeds of the three cottages are now at Gisburne Park.



William Simpson migrated from Moor Close, with his wife Elizabeth and his two sons, sometime between the years 1767 and 1769, into Lancashire, where he became a toll farmer.

Formerly the roads of England, with the numerous toll-bars, or turnpikes, were in the hands of turnpike trusts. The men whom the trustees appointed as toll collectors—turnpike gate-keepers, or pikemen, as they were called—were at first merely labourers, paid a wage of ten or twelve shillings a week, often unable to read or write, and usually incapable of keeping accounts. It was notorious that they habitually kept back part of each day's collection for themselves. Hence many trusts resorted to the plan of "farming," leasing each gate with the power of exacting toll for a definite sum per annum. As the mileage of turnpike roads increased, there grew up a whole class of professional toll farmers, often men of large capital, farming tolls amounting to many tens of thousands a year, and employing under them small armies of professional pikemen.

William Simpson was of this class, and appears to have held on lease the three turnpikes of Beaumont, or Slyne, near Lancaster; Greta Bridge, parish of Tunstall, Lancashire; and Helsington, parish of Kirkby Kendal,

MOOR CLOSE.

Afterwards called Tewit Hall, but now known as Moor Hall.

Westmoreland. He settled for a short time at Beaumont, but before the year 1776 removed to Greta Bridge. The Old Tollgate House at Greta Bridge, where he lived, is still standing, and is situated on the north side of, and just over, the bridge in the parish of Tunstall. From Greta Bridge toll-bar to Tunstall and on to Casterton and Sedbergh, the road was under the Sedbergh Trust, with another bar at Sedbergh. His wife, Elizabeth, died at Greta Bridge sometime between the years 1776 and 1780, but the exact date of her death and place of burial have not been ascertained. After her death William Simpson went to Helsington, and died there, aged 72 years. He was buried at the Kendal parish church, 7th December, 1788. Letters of administration of his effects were granted to his son Stephen, at York, 23rd December, 1788. The bondsmen were his son, Stephen Simpson of Greta Bridge, clockmaker; Simeon Coulthard of Burton in Kendal, Westmoreland, yeoman; and his grandson, William Simpson of Over Wyresdale, Lancs., hatter. The original letters of administration are now in the muniment room at Gisburne Park.

John, the elder son of William Simpson, was sometime a clockmaker at Lancaster, but afterwards served in the 2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys). From the regimental records, I find that this regiment was stationed in Scotland in the year 1775, and in Lancashire in the following year. Probably, therefore, John Simpson enlisted in the year 1776. No particulars, however, of his service have been discovered. On his discharge he became a woolcomber, and afterwards a mason, and lived at Canterbury—not, I think, in the city of Canterbury, but at a farm of that name near Gisburne. He married and had three sons and one daughter. After his death his widow is stated to have married a Mr. Robinson. His children were as follows:—

1.—William Simpson, the bondsman mentioned above, of Wray, parish of Melling, Lancs., hatter, afterwards of Preston. He was baptized, 18th March, 1770, at High Street chapel, Lancaster, and married twice, his first wife being Elizabeth Chapman of Grassingham, Lancs., and his second wife, Jane Wortley of Melling. His son by his second wife, Jonathan Wortley Simpson, was a clockmaker at Bingley, in Yorkshire, when he married Ann Ianson at the parish church, Preston, 6th June, 1820, but removed to Preston soon afterwards. He had five children by her, two sons—John Ianson and Wortley—and three daughters. Both sons were married, and have probably left descendants. Wortley went to Trinity Miles, Texas, U.S.A. The eldest daughter, Emilia, died unmarried; the second daughter, Elizabeth, married a schoolmaster named Mackenzie, and the youngest daughter, Ann, married David Wilcockson of Preston, descended from an old Quaker family of Wray, and

nephew of Isaac Wilcockson, the proprietor and editor of the Preston *Chronicle*, successor in 1812 of the Preston *Journal*. The following interesting account of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Simpson appeared in the *History of the Borough of Preston*, by P. Whittle, F.A.S., published in 1837:—"We beg leave to notice this gentleman and his wife as being worthy of our special attention. During July, 1834, these indefatigable individuals reared in the course of eight weeks, the amazing quantity of ten thousand silkworms, which they had placed in the upper rooms of their house, and fed them with lettuce and mulberry leaves. They were a pleasing sight to the naturalist. The attention paid to them by Mrs. Simpson was incessant. They did produce that season twenty pounds of cocoons of silk. Mrs. Simpson has wound some of the silk from the cocoons and prepared it in the form of hanks, which was beautiful to behold. We further state that in July, 1835, Mrs. Simpson possessed some thousands of these curious and useful insects, busily at work spinning their silk in the house of our ingenious townsman, who has continued to rear the numerous colony (from a few silkworms presented to them as a curiosity in 1832) and attended to their wants and struggles through a variety of difficulties to bring to the test the possibility of profitably cultivating silk in this country with a devotion above all praise. The experiment, we rejoice to say, will in all probability decide the question in the affirmative. The great difficulties, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have had to contend with, have been owing to the procuring the foliums of the 'morus nigra' or mulberry tree; they have been chiefly fed with the lactuca or lettuce. There is a striking and interesting peculiarity in the silkworm, that it does not wander about, as all caterpillars do, but that it is nearly stationary in the open box or shelf where it is placed and fed. After consuming the immediate supply of mulberry leaves or lettuce, it waits patiently for more being provided. We apprehend this cannot be said of any other insect. This docile quality of the worm harmonizes as beautifully with its vast importance to mankind, in furnishing a material which affords our most elegant and pretty, if not most useful attire. The same remark applies to the insect in the fly or moth state, the female being quite incapable of flight, and the male, although of a much lighter form and more active, can fly, but very imperfectly. The latter circumstance ensures to us the eggs for the following season and thus completes the adaptation of the insect in its various stages, to the useful purpose it is destined to fulfil for our advantage. Mr. Simpson is a person of no ordinary judgement and along with his wife, is an ardent admirer of nature in all its varieties. The Royal Society of Art and Manufacture, it is hoped will ere long award to them a prize, which will be a family treasure for ages to come.

GRETA BRIDGE.

Shewing Tollgate House on the left, and house on the right built by Stephen Simpson.

The public Clocks he has made for Bank Hall, Trinity Church, and other places reflect infinite credit on him, and will be a lasting memorial of his ingenuity and talent."

2.—Stephen Simpson of Leeds, of whom nothing is known.

3.—John Simpson of Skipton, co. York, tanner, formerly of Kendal (removed to Skipton in 1801) married Betty, daughter of Abraham Rushforth of Skipton, and had issue six daughters, who all died unmarried.

As an illustration of the clannish feeling and great hospitality existing amongst the Yorkshire people, it is related of one of these daughters, Margaret by name, that about the year 1836 she turned up from Skipton one day very unexpectedly with her friend, Mary Golightly, at the house in Fox Street, Preston, of her father's cousin, my grandfather, Isaac Simpson, who was then unknown to her. On arrival, she said she had come to stay for a fortnight, but that her friend could only stay for one week. They were both made most welcome, and although pressed to extend their visit, nothing could induce either of them to do so.

Elizabeth, the daughter of John, of the 2nd Dragoons, was baptized, 22nd October, 1769, at the High Street chapel, Lancaster, and married a Mr. Smith of Sedgwick, Westmoreland. I have no further details of her, nor do I know whether she had issue.

An account of Stephen Simpson, the younger son of William Simpson of Greta Bridge, will be the subject of the next chapter. He was my great-grandfather.

CHAPTER IV.

Stephen Simpson of Preston, Clockmaker.

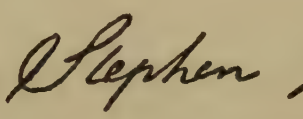
MY great-grandfather, Stephen Simpson, the younger son of William Simpson of Greta Bridge, was born in 1752 at Moor Close, Paythorne, in the parish of Gisburne, and, when a boy, accompanied his parents into Lancashire. He was apprenticed to a clockmaker, probably at Lancaster, near which town his parents lived. The name of his master is not known, but there is no doubt the fee on apprenticeship would be a large one, bordering on £100. Clockmaking was a highly skilled and scientific business in those days, and, to enable a young man to become efficient at the trade, an immense amount of mathematical study and application was necessary. The date of the invention of clocks as we now know them is shrouded in mystery. The word clock originally signified a bell, and it is probable that the first clock consisted of some mechanical appliance to ring a bell at regular intervals. The manufacture of portable clocks for domestic use in this country commenced about the year 1660. The makers had to make their own tools and cut out all the wheels themselves, which, of course, had to be mathematically correct. At first the clocks were hung on a wall or were supported on a bracket, and it was not until after the year 1660 that the "Grandfather" clock was made. The earliest long case ones were probably what were termed "24-hour" and "30-hour" clocks, but the eight-day clocks were introduced very soon afterwards. The cases usually were of oak, mahogany did not come into use until about the year 1716. The dials mostly were of brass, with the hours' circles engraved on a separate silvered ring; some dials had enamelled centres, others were of iron or wood painted.

On the termination of his apprenticeship, Stephen Simpson went with his parents to Greta Bridge, and began to make clocks there on his own account. One of these, a long case clock with "Peter and Mary Winder" in the centre of the dial, is mentioned in the list of former clock and watch makers in Britten's *Old Clocks and their Makers*, fourth edition, published in 1919, and the date is given as about 1770. From this fact I conclude that Stephen Simpson may be classed as a noted clockmaker of his day.

STEPHEN SIMPSON

of Preston, formerly of Greta Bridge, Lancashire.
Born 1752, at Gisburne, Yorkshire.
Died 23rd November, 1821, at Preston.

Stephen Simpson built a house for himself at Greta Bridge on a piece of waste ground which he had enclosed by leave of the Court of the Manor of Tunstall on his agreeing to pay the annual rent of five shillings, and to do and perform the same suit and service at the usual Courts as the other manorial tenants. Sometime afterwards, Miles North of Kirkby Lonsdale, Esq., the lord of the manor, to make a more perfect title, sold and confirmed the premises unto him, in consideration of five shillings and of his paying the annual rent of five shillings and performing the suit and service before mentioned. The lease and release were dated respectively the 9th and 10th of February, 1789. In an old call book and rental for the Manor of Tunstall, 1772, now preserved at Thurland Castle, the residence of the Revd. Ronald Lees, the present lord of the manor, the name "Stephen Simpson" is inserted among the list of free-holders in Cantsfield after the dates Michaelmas 1777 and 1778. The house was situated on the south-west side of the river Greta and adjoining the bridge. It was said to be haunted by a black dog, the appearance of which presaged some bad luck. The last recorded visit occurred just before an accident to one of the sons of Stephen Simpson, which resulted in his early



death. Stephen Simpson sold the house on 30th November, 1801, to the Overseers of Cantsfield, viz.: Edmund Tatham of Cantsfield, in the parish of Tunstall, gentleman; John Tatham of Lowfields, in the township of Burton in Lonsdale, gentleman; John Gerard of Garswood, in the co. of Lancaster, Esq.; Francis Hannam Abbotson of Cantsfield, gentleman; Richard Crumble-holme of Rairan, in the township of Burton in Lonsdale, yeoman; George Richard Marton, Esq., younger son of Oliver Marton, late of Lancaster, clerk, deceased; and William Wilson Carus Wilson of Casterton Hall, in the parish of Kirkby Lonsdale, in the county of Westmoreland, Esq., as tenants in common, the purchase money being £100. About fifty years later the house was divided into two cottages, and I have in my possession a small round oak box which was made from wood taken from one of the beams at the time of the alterations. The ordnance map shews that these cottages, opposite the Greta Bridge toll-bar and on the south-west side of the river, are in the parish of Tunstall. Just above Greta Bridge, the boundary of the two parishes of Tunstall and Melling varies from the line of the river. It seems probable that the river has itself moved—indeed, it is moving a little now—and that originally the river was the boundary of the two parishes. The bridge is a county bridge, and was re-built about the beginning of the last century.

Within a few years afterwards it was so injured by a flood that it had to be re-built again.

After the sale, Stephen Simpson lived at Caton, near Lancaster, and for a short time carried on his business there. During his residence at Greta Bridge, Stephen Simpson made the sun-dial for Melling churchyard (the inscription, "S. Simpson fecit," may still be seen on the dial-plate), and became a member of the Society of Friends, apparently with a view to marriage. The minutes of the Settle Monthly Meeting recording the event are very quaintly worded, and are as follows:—

"Monthly Meeting held 6 of 10th Month 1779.

"Stephen Simpson, a young man residing within Bentham Meeting, which he has frequented for some years, having requested to be received into the Society, with the concurrence of that Meeting, John Hodgson, John Slater, James Kenyon, George Atkinson and James Kendal are appointed to visit him and report at our next.

"Monthly Meeting held 3 of 11 Mo 1779.

"James Kenyon on behalf of the friends appointed to visit Stephen Simpson reports that they attended said appointment wherein they were joined by several other friends, and that after much deliberation, it seemed their unanimous judgement that it would be more prudent to postpone his application awhile longer, this Meeting in consideration of the Report and some favourable accounts now received from Bentham friends agrees to resume the matter next month.

"Monthly Meeting held 1 of 12 Mo 1779.

"This Meeting on mature deliberation upon the request of Stephen Simpson and receiving a further confirmation of the sentiment of Bentham Friends thereon, notwithstanding we could have wished to have felt his closer union to the Society from true conviction, agrees to receive him as a Member during his orderly walking, with earnest breathing to the Lord for his progression and advancement in the best things."

He married shortly afterwards, on the 7th March, 1780, Elizabeth, the only daughter and heiress of Edmund Porter, linen weaver, by his wife, Mary, *nee* Goodfellow, of Kendal (formerly of Eamont Bridge, near Penrith). She was born at Yanwith, near Eamont Bridge, 2nd January, 1755. The marriage took place at the Lancaster meeting house, which was erected in 1677, and is still standing practically as it was at the time of the marriage. The street in which the meeting house is situate is still known as Meeting House Lane.

I now have the original marriage certificate, written on a sheet of parchment, 20 in. broad by 14 in. deep, bearing three embossed stamps, of which the following is a copy:—

Stephen Simpson of Greta-Bridge in the Parish of Melling and County of Lancaster Clockmaker, son of William Simpson of the same Place and Elizabeth his Wife, and Elizabeth Porter of Lancaster in the County aforesaid, Daughter of Edmund Porter late of Emont Bridge in the Parish of Penrith in the County of Cumberland, but now of Kirkby Kendal in the County of Westmorland Linen-Weaver and Mary his Wife, having declared their Intentions of taking each other in Marriage, before several Meetings of the People called Quakers in the Counties of York and Lancaster, whereunto they respectively belong, and the Proceedings of the said Stephen Simpson and Elizabeth Porter after due Enquiry, and deliberate Consideration thereof, being allowed by the said Meetings, they appearing clear of all others, and having Consent of Parents and Relations concerned. Now these are to certify all whom it may concern, that for the accomplishing of their said Marriage this seventh Day of the third Month called March in the Year one thousand seven hundred and eighty, they the said Stephen Simpson and Elizabeth Porter appeared in a public Afsembly of the aforesaid People and others in their Meeting-house in Lancaster in the County of Lancaster aforesaid, and he the said Stephen Simpson taking the said Elizabeth Porter by the Hand did openly and solemnly declare as followeth " Friends, in the Fear of the Lord, and " before this Afsembly, I take this my Friend Elizabeth Porter to be my Wife, promising " through divine Afsistance to be unto her a loving and faithful Husband, until it shall please " the Lord by Death to separate us "; or Words of like Import: And the said Elizabeth Porter did then and there, in the said Afsembly in like Manner declare as followeth; " Friends, in the " Fear of the Lord, and before this Afsembly, I take this my Friend Stephen Simpson to be my " Husband, promising through divine Afsistance to be unto him a loving and faithful Wife until " it shall please the Lord by Death to separate us "; or Words of like Import. And the said Stephen Simpson and Elizabeth Porter, as a farther Confirmation thereof, and in Testimony thereunto, did then and there to these Presents set their Hands.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, being present among others, at the solemnizing of the above said Marriage and Subscription, in Manner aforesaid, as Witnefses, have also to these Presents subscribed our Names the Day and Year above written.

Stephen Simpson

Elizabeth Porter

					Relations.
Hannah Bentham	John Barrow	Joseph Patchet	Ann Ready	Isabla Sill	Thomas Dewhurst
	Benjamin Varley	Robert Jepson	Mary Hall	John Metcalf	John Fell
	Abigail Whalley	Robert Foster	Alice Bryning	James Wildman	Jane Jackson
	Josh. Whalley	John Patchet	Phebe Robinson	Mary Bradford	Ann Metcalf
	William Jepson	Joseph Crosfield	Margaret Frankland	Jane Routh	[illegible]
	Robt. Thompson	John Barrow	Ann M. Shaw	Judith Marsden	[illegible]
	W. Barrow	Thomas Albright	Elizabeth Wade	Agnefs Fell	John Wildman
	J. Overend.	Caleb Lyon	Eliz Wildman	Margaret Walker	John Routh

It will be noticed beneath the signatures of Stephen Simpson and Elizabeth Porter are those of the following "relations":—Thomas Dewhurst, John Fell, Jane Jackson, Ann Metcalf, Iasbella Grimshaw, John Wildman, and John Routh.

Thomas Dewhurst was related through the aforementioned marriage of William Simpson and Elizabeth Dewhurst, and was probably an uncle or cousin of the bridegroom.

John Fell was the son of John Fell and Sarah, his wife, sister of William Simpson, and was therefore a first cousin of Stephen Simpson. He has already been referred to in Chapter II.

It is surmised that Jane Jackson was a distant cousin through the marriage of William Simpson of Flass and Jane Jackson of Mill Gill, the great-grandparents of Stephen Simpson.

Iasbella Grimshaw was, I think, a connection by marriage only, being probably a daughter of Ambrose Grimshaw and Margaret, his wife, the sister of John Fell the elder.

The relationship of the other witnesses has not been ascertained. There was issue of the said marriage nine children—six sons and three daughters, all born at Greta Bridge. They will be more particularly mentioned in the next chapter.

Early in the year 1804, Stephen Simpson removed to Preston with his wife and the unmarried members of the family, and commenced business as a clockmaker at 109, Church Street, at the bottom of Cotton Court. In the front of the house there were some staples, which formerly held in position the model of a ram, which used to strike the hours of the day on a bell with its horns, and, in consequence, the shop was known as the sign of the "Tup's Clock."

At that time Preston was a small town of about 12,000 inhabitants, but, through the introduction of the cotton trade in 1777, it rapidly increased, and in 1821 the population was over 24,000. To trade in the town it was formerly necessary for a man to be a freeman. There were two methods of obtaining the freedom of Preston; firstly, by admission at the Guild Merchant, a festival which was held in the town every twenty years, and secondly, by admission by court roll, which was known as compounding. Admission by the latter method gave a sort of interim possession of the privileges of a burgess until the holding of the next Guild. The privilege was a personal one, and conferred upon the children of the person so admitted no right to claim admission themselves.

Stephen Simpson probably became a freeman of Preston by admission by court roll, but no record of his admission by this method has been discovered. As the Guild was held in Preston in 1802, two years before he settled in the town, and as he died in 1821, before the holding of the next Guild, he could not have become a freeman by admission at a Guild Merchant.

GRANDFATHER CLOCK

made by Stephen Simpson, Greta Bridge, about 1780.

The Guild Merchant has been celebrated in Preston from the very earliest times. It commemorates and hands on an institution which in this and other important boroughs had a chief share in the development of trade, and was closely connected with the rise of two great and increasingly important classes of our fellow countrymen—the middle class of our large towns and the working class, with which they are so intimately associated. As to its origin, it grew out of those earlier guilds of Anglo-Saxon times, into which the inhabitants of each town entered for mutual support and defence. Between 1328 and 1542 it was held irregularly, but from the latter year onwards the celebrations have taken place regularly every twenty years. The freemen, who were admitted Guild burgesses at these functions, once enjoyed very important privileges, but in course of time, owing to the development of new social and mercantile conditions, the privileges have sunk into insignificance.

In a directory given in Whittle's *History* of the borough, published 1821, it appears there were only nine clockmakers carrying on the trade in Preston at that time. Among them were Stephen Simpson of Church Street, and his great-nephew, Jonathan Simpson of Friargate, mentioned in the last chapter.

Stephen Simpson was an ardent Freemason and a member of the Lodge of Peace and Unity, No. 565 (now 314), Preston, of which he became Master on 23rd June, 1806. The following particulars have been extracted from the minutes of the Lodge meetings, which may be of interest:—

"Lodge 565. 151 Transaction. June 28, 1804.

"Being the first regular Lodge night after St. John the Baptist's the lodge was opened in the first second and third degrees of Masonry, when the following Brethren were elected Officers for the ensuing half year and were obligated and took their chairs in due form. Richard Dunn was proposed by Stephen Simpson and 10/6 deposited on Report.

"The lodge was closed with harmony. Br. W. B. Slater W.M.

Br. Gorsuch S.W. Br. Richardson J.W. Br. Archer S.D.
Br. Walmsley J.D. Br. R. Wrigley } Stewards. Br. Johnson. Treasurer.
Br. Karr P.M. Br. Mitchell } x x x x x x x x
Br. Jno. Wrigley, Sec.

"Transaction 158. September 27, 1804.

"The lodge was opened in the first degree of Masonry when Thos. Kirkham came forward to that degree of an entered apprentice. Secondly the lodge was further opened in the Fellowcraft, when Bro. Stephen Simpson received the same degree. Thirdly the Lodge was further opened in the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason when Bro. Stephen Simpson and Br. Tunstall were raised to the above degree. The following Brethren were present:—
Br. W. B. Slater W.M. Br. Gorsuch S.W. Br. Richardson J.W. x x x x x x

"Transaction 204th. June 12th, 1806.

"This being a regular night the lodge was opened in the name and fear of the Grand Architect of the Universe in the first degree of Masonry when a ballot took place for new officers and the following Brethren were duly elected and the following were present x x x New officers Bro. Simpson for W.M., Br. Slater S.W., Br. Williamson J.W., Bro. W. Smith S.D., Br. Helme J.D., Br. Driver Tr., Br. Fisher Secy.

"Transaction 205. June 23, 1806.

"This being a Lodge of Emergency, the Lodge was opened in the usual form in the 1st. 2nd. and 3rd. degrees of Masonry, when the new Officers were regularly installed, and the following Brethren were present:—Bro. Archer W.M., Bro. Simpson S.W., Br. Walmsley J.W. x x x x"

Unfortunately, the minutes of the meeting Transaction 150, at which Stephen Simpson was no doubt initiated, and which meeting took place in the early part of the year 1804, soon after Stephen Simpson settled in Preston, are missing from the records.

He was also a Royal Arch Mason, as will be seen from the extract below:—

"1805. Transaction 11, The Royal Architect Chapter No. 126 (now 314) Health Peace and Goodwill. Decr. 15. Being a Regular Chapter night, the Chapter was opened in the name and fear of the Grand Architect of the Universe by the M.E.Z. when Br. Smithson of Preston, Br. Simpson of do., Br. Williams of Moon Hill, Br. King of do., Br. Helme of Ribbleton, were regularly balloted for and accepted and were afterwards exalted to that most sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason. It was agreed that Compn. Slater should go to Br. Winstanley and desire him to write to Mr. Benjn. Cooper concerning the £3 . 17 . 6 that we sent to the Supreme Chapter the 22nd. day of April last. W. B. Slater, Z pro tem., T. Hope, H. Do., W. Walmsley J. Do. After which the Chapter was closed in perfect harmony and order.

"Fees.	Compn. Smithson	... ...	1 . 8 . 0
	Do. King	... ...	1 . 8 . 0
	Do. Helme	... ...	1 . 8 . 0
	Do. Williams	... ...	1 . 8 . 0
	Do. Simpson	... ...	1 . 8 . 0
			7 . 0 . 0"

His certificate as a Royal Arch Mason, signed by him, is now in my possession. Two of his letters, written to his eldest and youngest sons respectively, also have been preserved. They are as follows:—

" PRESTON 24 Novr. 1807.

" DEARE CHILDERN,

" We Received your letter and was thankful to heare you was all in good health as these leaves us and we shall be much ablidged to thee to send 2 yards and ½ Broode cloth for Stepn. a top coate the sooner it can be Made conviniont to send it the Better there is very distre/sing times heare with peeple breaking but what thou wished us to do conserning the Bank was dun before we Recived yours and put wheare it is safe. Wm. Pennington had the misforton at this time to be Lotted for the Melitta but got a man swoore in for him yesterday. thy Brother Thos. desiers his kind love to thee and will be glad to heare of thy posperity zion ward we have nothing pertickler at presant but as soon as we heare from you shall send to you again.

" Axcept of all our love to you all From your Father and Mother

" S: E. SIMPSON."

Address endorsed:—

" William Simpson,
" at
" Bingley Cotton Mill,
" Neare Bradford,
" Yorkshire."

" PRESTON, 25 Feby. 1821.

" DEARE SON,

" this day I received watch spring by Towlming we have been at every shop but cannot get one that will do, yesterday I sent the small parsil to Liverpool—I have sent a Watch that belongs to the Grave stone cutter at Penertham and must be dun as soon as posable I have like wise sent that Watch which thou put averg in I have got it again from Wadington it frecklantly stops thou mus send it back against saterday it will be calld for and I promised it should be dun. I have got the Glazners vice dun and thou will Receive it with this and I think it is a very good Job and hope it will give satisfaction I have given thee a bill of it below and I think it very well desarvs it and as soon as ever I receive it I will pay Stocks what thou requirs I have nothing moore at presant onley I am rather a little better but very weak I am with due Respects

thy Father S. SIMPSON.

" Preston, Feby. 25. 1821.

" Isaac Simpson
To Stephen Simpson Dr.

	£	S	D
" To Repars of a Glazners Vice	1	2	0"

Numerous clocks made by him are still in existence. I have two of them, one is a Grandfather clock with brass dial and silvered ring for the hours' circle, and engraved $\frac{\text{Simpson}}{\text{G. Bridge.}}$ It is enclosed in an oak case, inlaid with mahogany. This clock was discovered in November, 1887, in the kitchen of Thurland Castle, North Lonsdale, Lancashire, which is about a mile from Greta Bridge, where Stephen Simpson formerly lived, and was then in a broken condition. It was included in the sale of the furniture and other appointments there by Mr. Henry Crane Walton, a noted Preston auctioneer, by instructions from North North, Esq., the owner of the castle. A broker from Lancaster acquired it for a few shillings, and I afterwards purchased it from him for fifteen shillings. This clock was probably made about the year 1780 for a member of the North family, so had been in one place for over a hundred years. It has been well restored, and is now a wonderful time-keeper. The other is also a Grandfather clock, but of much later date. It has a painted face with "Step^{n} Simpson, Preston," thereon. The case is of oak, with a flat top surmounted by an oak pediment, the two curves of which are ornamented with brass roses, and there is a brass ball with spike in the centre of the pediment.

A very fine example of his art is the long case clock now at the Royal Oak Hotel, Garstang, Lancashire. It is of immense size and has a very tall and wide mahogany case. The dial is a painted one, the hours being represented by "*R. Butterfield.*" The name "S. Simpson, Preston," with the motto "Time will stay for no man" below, is painted on the dial.

Stephen Simpson also made a clock for Chipping church tower, but it was replaced by a new one in 1909. The inscription on the face was "Simpson, Preston, 1814." In the Chipping churchwardens' accounts are the following entries:—

"1815 March 28. On the above day Mr. Stephen Simpson was paid the sum of £60, being the price agreed upon for furnishing the church clock now lately erected at Chipping, and he further engages to keep it in repair for the above sum."

"1817 June 20. Stephen Simpson repairing Clock. £2. 2. 0."

His wife, Elizabeth, died 1814, and was buried in the Friends' burial-ground at Preston. He married a second time, on 26th November, 1817, at the parish church, Preston, Mary Gibson of Preston, and, in consequence, he ceased to be a member of the Society of Friends.

Stephen Simpson died 23rd November, 1821, aged 69 years.

The following announcement is taken from the *Preston Sentinel* of Saturday, 24th November, 1821:—"Yesterday, at an advanced age, Mr. Simpson, Clockmaker, Church Street." He was buried in the grave of his son-in-law, William Sutton, in the parish churchyard, and his name as the first representative of the family in Preston has been placed on the memorial tablet, erected to the memory of his grandson, Stephen Simpson, in the north aisle of the church.

CHAPTER V.

The Family of Stephen Simpson.

THE children of Stephen Simpson of Preston, clockmaker, by his first wife were as follows:—

1.—William Simpson, the eldest son, who was born 2nd January, 1781, at Greta Bridge, and was apprenticed to his father. Soon after coming of age he went to Bingley, and started business as a clock and textile machine maker. He was married three times. I do not know the name of his first wife. She probably died very soon after marriage without having had any children. He married, secondly, on 22nd March, 1804, at the parish church, Preston, Elizabeth, daughter of William and Ruth Wilkinson of Crossflats, co. York, and had ten children—seven sons and three daughters—by her. His wife was one of a family of twelve children, was married when 18 years of age, had a busy life with her large family, and died at the early age of 40. Her mother, Ruth, was the daughter of Benjamin and Ann Barber of Crossflats, the founders of the Quakers' meeting house there. The eldest son, John, was a nautical instrument maker, in partnership with Thomas Roberts of the Strand, Liverpool. He specialized in ships' chronometers, the accuracy of which is shown by the Kew Observatory records. He married twice and died without issue. Thomas, the second son, went to Rhodes, near Manchester, and married Hannah, daughter of Richard Lund of Wensley Fold Mills, Blackburn, on 4th January, 1837, at Prestwich parish church, near Manchester. He was the chief engineer with Messrs. Schwart & Silcer, calico printers, Rhodes. There was issue of the marriage four children, viz.: Thomas, who married Mary Ann Jackson of Rhodes, and had seven children—four sons and three daughters; Isaac, who married Susan Webb of Parkfield, Middleton, near Manchester, and had two children, Sarah Hannah and Percy (Percy served as a private in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in Salonika in the late war); Mary, who died in infancy; and Elizabeth Hannah, widow of the late William Hurd of Derby. Mrs. Hurd alone survives, and now lives at 19, Peas Hill Road, Nottingham; she has very kindly supplied the foregoing information of her father's family. She has three sons and two daughters. Thomas Simpson of Rhodes was killed through being thrown out of his gig on 31st October, 1857.

ELIZABETH,

Wife of William Simpson of Bingley, and daughter of William and Ruth Wilkinson of Crossflats.

Stephen Simpson, the third son of William Simpson of Bingley, was born there 6th October, 1813, and went as a young man to Mansfield, where his uncle, Stephen Simpson, as will be seen later, had started business as a gas and mechanical engineer. It may be of interest to his descendants to read the following letter, the original of which is now in my possession; the letter was written by his uncle, Stephen Simpson, to my grandfather, Isaac Simpson:—

"MANSFIELD, Near Waggon & Co.*
"June 27th 1829

"DR BROTHER

"When I last saw my Br William he told me his son John was with thee as apprentice. I wish to know if he is now with thee, if not what he is dooing. I am in want of such a one as I think he would be & I hope I should be able to be a little benefit to him, tho not exactly in the Clock and Watchmaking line; but if he should have set up for himself or be otherwise engaged so that he could not come, I should be obliged if thou could inform me where I could meet with a young man in the trade that would be able to turn his hand a little and make himself useful. I should feel particularly obliged if thou would write me by return as I must have one from some where immediately but I should like to have had John in preference to any other if he was at liberty. Hoping this will find you and family all well I remain

"Dr Brother
"Yours affectionately
"STEPHEN SIMPSON."

Address endorsed:—

"Mr Isaac Simpson,
"Clock and Watchmaker,
"Chorley, Lancashire."

A copy of the reply is attached to the letter, and is as follows:—

"DEAR BROTHER,

"John left me nearly 3 years ago last account I heard of him he was in Darlington. Brother William has a son about 18 years of age that I think might suit thee.

"I remain
"Dear Brother
"Thine affectionately
"ISAAC SIMPSON.

"Chorley.
"July 1st, 1829."

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* Probably "Waggon and Coals," there being an Inn of that name near the Gas Works.

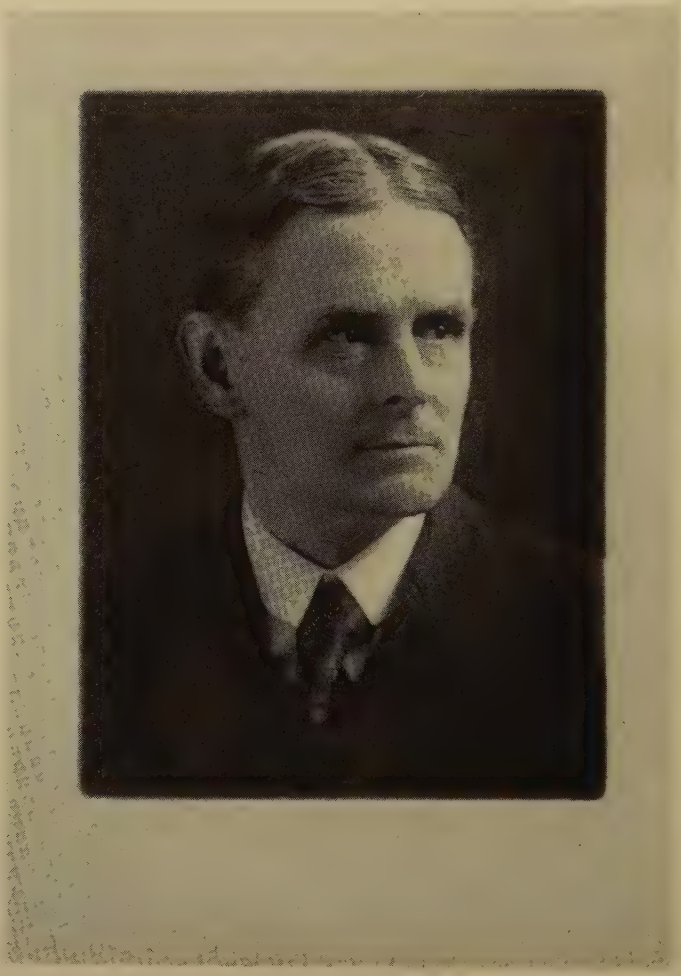
The son of William referred to in the copy letter was Stephen, but he was not quite 16 years of age at that time. In 1849, on the death of his cousin, Edmund Simpson, the only son of his uncle Stephen, he succeeded to his business. He married, 19th May, 1834, at Old Basford church, Nottingham, Eliza Godley of Mansfield, and had two sons—Edmund and Stephen—and six daughters. The elder son, Edmund, born 5th February, 1836, became a partner in his father's business, and married, 20th May, 1868, at St. Maurice, York, Jane, youngest daughter of William and Eleanor Wood of York. He died 8th May, 1894, in the 58th year of his age, and left two sons—Stephen and William Edmund—and five daughters. Stephen, born 25th July, 1869, at Mansfield, settled in Exeter, and became a very successful engineer and the inventor of various improvements in the manufacture and use of gas, notably the prepayment gas meter. He is an A.M.I.M.E. He married, 29th January, 1902, at St. Matthew's, Exeter, Marion, second daughter of the Revd. John Allan Bullen, M.A., vicar of Dawlish, Devon, and has one son—Stephen John Valentine, born 13th February, 1915—and two daughters, Dorothy Marion and Stephanie Joan Mildred. He now lives at Minehayes, Haytor, Devon, which he built a few years ago. William Edmund emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A., with his wife and daughter. Of the five daughters, Agnes Annie married John Phillips of Ilfracombe, North Devon (now living at Glasgow); Florence Jane married Albert Hugh Morland Peareth of Parkstone, Dorset; Mary married Frederick Shepherd of Erdington, Warwick; and the two other daughters, Eleanor Eliza and Ada Margaret, are unmarried. Jane, the widow of Edmund Simpson, died 13th August, 1920, and was buried at Christow, Devon. A pedigree of this branch of the family is registered at the Heralds' College, London. The younger son of Stephen Simpson of Mansfield, Stephen, married an Oldham lady, in 1874, but has not been heard of for many years. Five of the six daughters of Stephen Simpson married, viz.: Elizabeth Annie to John Whelpdale of Ollerton Mill, Newark, Nottingham (she died 2nd November, 1922); Mary to George Smith of Mansfield (she died 16th September, 1922); Ida to Thomas Sherwood Richardson of Mansfield, lately living in Canada, but now, I believe, at Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.; Ruth to William Cowpe of Mansfield Woodhouse; and Annie Wilkinson to her second cousin, Stephen Simpson of Mc Keesport, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. They all had children. Stephen Simpson of Mansfield died 4th February, 1880: Eliza, his wife, 21st December, 1890, and both are buried at the cemetery, Mansfield.

The other sons of William Simpson of Bingley, viz.: William, Edmund, Isaac, and Wilkinson, all married and left issue.

William settled at Lille, France, where he had charge of the interests and patents of Samuel Cunliffe Lister (afterwards Lord Masham), the well-known inventor of the combing and other textile machines for making plush, etc. By his wife, Fanny, who was a widow from Bradford when he married her,

ELIZA,
Wife of Stephen Simpson
of Mansfield.

STEPHEN SIMPSON
of Mansfield. Third son of William Simpson
of Bingley.



STEPHEN SIMPSON
of Exeter.

he had a son, John, of whom nothing is known, and two daughters. The elder, Mary, married a Frenchman, Alexander Duterlay of Cherry Cossigny, France; the younger, Martha, lived at Frevant, France, and died unmarried. Mrs. Simpson died August, 1890, at Stanningley, Yorkshire, shortly before her husband went to France.

Edmund was an engineer and iron turner at Bradford, and afterwards went to Mansfield. He returned to Bradford and died there. His wife, Henrietta, bore him two sons and three daughters. One son, Edmund, died unmarried, and was buried at Bingley with his father; the other son, Wilkinson, went to America, and was killed in a mine. After her husband's death, Mrs. Simpson married again and went with her second husband to America, taking her son Wilkinson and her youngest daughter with her.

Isaac, the sixth son of William Simpson of Bingley, who was born 13th July, 1823, followed his brother Stephen to Mansfield about the year 1840 to assist in the business of gas meter manufacturing, established there by his uncle, Stephen Simpson. He married, at Newark-on-Trent, 11th March, 1850, Ann, widow of his cousin Edmund (son of Stephen Simpson), and daughter of Joseph Bower of Duffield, Derby. In 1856 he went to Preston, and for about ten years acted as manager for his uncle, my grandfather, Isaac Simpson, and his cousin, my father, Stephen Simpson, of the gold thread business there. Afterwards, for a short time, he lived at Pontypridd, Wales, and had charge of the gas works. He removed to Nottingham to take over the management of the meter department at the Nottingham Corporation gas works, where his wife died in 1898. After her death he went to live with his daughter at Swansea, Wales. Anna Riggott, the only child of Isaac Simpson, married Isaac Jones of Wolverhampton, now of Swansea; they have four sons and one daughter, who were all serving during the Great War. One of their sons, Percy John Benbow, has supplied me with much interesting information about this branch of the family. He claims descent through his father's mother from Admiral John Benbow, an unquestioned naval hero of old times, after whom he was named. Isaac Simpson died at Swansea, 6th December, 1911, in the 89th year of his age.

Wilkinson, the seventh son of William Simpson of Bingley, was an engineer in the locomotive department of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, Gorton, near Manchester (now the Great Central Railway). He married and had three daughters, one of them the wife of a printer in the employ of Messrs. John Heywood Limited of Manchester. I have no further particulars of this family.

Of the three daughters of William Simpson of Bingley by his second wife, Elizabeth, the eldest, Mary Wilkinson, died unmarried. Betty married James Sykes of Cleckheaton, and had two children, a son, named Seth, who was drowned at sea off Keppel Island, South Pacific, on 31st May, 1857, aged

22 years, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Joseph Craven of Idle, near Bradford. Mrs. Craven had nine children; two are now living, viz.: John William Craven of Manningham, Bradford, who married twice and has two daughters, one by each wife; and Elizabeth, who is unmarried; one son, Seth Kitson Craven, was assistant master for thirty-five years of the Lily Croft and Whetley Lane Boys' Schools, Bradford; he took great interest in genealogies, and gave me the particulars of his descent from the Simpson family before he died in 1918; the other six children died young.

Ruth, the third daughter of William Simpson of Bingley, married John Heaton of Bingley, woolcomber, and had eight children—five sons and three daughters. Three are still alive, viz.: William Simpson Heaton of Silsden, near Keighley, co. York, now in his 81st year; Stephen Heaton of Bingley; and Fanny, wife of Charles Graham of Windhill, Shipley, co. York. They are all three married and have children. Her eldest son, Simpson Heaton, went to America with his wife and family of three sons and two daughters. His wife died and all the children married out there. He then came back to England and settled at Keighley, where he died in 1911. Of the others, two sons, Jonathan and Wilkinson, died young; and two daughters, Sarah (who married G. Woodhouse of Bingley) and Elizabeth (who married Joseph Brown of Bingley), both died leaving issue.

William Simpson of Bingley was married, thirdly, on 3rd November, 1829, to Hannah, daughter of Robert and Martha Longbottom of Bingley, and had two children by her, a son and a daughter, viz.: Martha, who lived with her mother's sister at Macclesfield, and Edwin, who was drowned in Melbourne Bay, Christmas, 1853. They both died unmarried.

William Simpson was a great believer in education, and sent all his boys to the Bingley Grammar School until they were sixteen years of age. He was rather a stout man, not very tall, and wore a *queue*, a mark of distinction at that time, which made him look very peculiar. He was a Freemason and member of the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, Keighley, No. 503 (now No. 265); also a Royal Arch Mason and Companion of the Judea Chapter of the Holy City, Keighley, No. 76 (now No. 265). The meetings of both the Lodge and the Chapter were at that time held at the sign of the "Lord Rodney" (Rodney Inn), Keighley. He was one of the noted clockmakers of Yorkshire. The last two turret clocks made in his works were a four-dial clock for the Townsend factory, Cullingworth, and a six-dial clock for Marriner's factory, Keighley. Up to the year 1861 the latter clock was still going. In that year, during rebuilding at the factory, the clock was altered to a three-dial one and went for many years afterwards. It is now stopped. He died 22nd February, 1846, and was buried at Bingley parish church.

AGNES,

Wife of Thomas Simpson of Preston, and daughter of James and Agnes Moore of Caton, Lancs.

From an oil painting.

2.—Thomas Simpson, the second son of Stephen Simpson of Preston, was born 27th September, 1782, at Greta Bridge. When a young man he was very fond of playing the fiddle and loved dance music. This greatly shocked the Friends, and, in consequence, he was expelled from the Society. He lived most of his life in Preston, and married, on 15th July, 1805, at Brookhouse church, Caton, near Lancaster, Agnes, daughter of James and Agnes Moore of that place. He had by her three sons and four daughters; two of the sons and one daughter died young. The third son, James Simpson, born 24th May, 1816, lived in Manchester, and afterwards at Chesterfield, co. Derby. He married, at Prestwich, Manchester, Catherine Pendlebury of Tyldesley, and had four sons, viz.: James, Thomas, Stephen, and Isaac—of all of whom presently—and three daughters—Agnes, Mary Jane, and Elizabeth, all unmarried. The three daughters of Thomas Simpson of Preston were Elizabeth, who died unmarried; Jane, the wife of John Turner Bond, who emigrated to America (as will be seen in Chapter VIII.); and Mary Porter, the wife of her first cousin, Edmund Simpson of Preston. Thomas Simpson was a machinist and engineer in the celebrated cotton spinning and manufacturing firm of Horrockses, Miller & Co., and a noted batten machine maker. He died 5th September, 1843, and was buried at the Preston parish church. His wife, Agnes, survived him until 1858, and was buried at the cemetery, Preston. Of the four sons of James Simpson of Chesterfield, James and Stephen emigrated to America (as will be seen in Chapter VIII.). Thomas, born 15th March, 1843, lived in Manchester, and died there 26th June, 1908. He married, January, 1870, at the parish church, Sheffield, Eunice, daughter of George Harris of Pickwell, Leicestershire, and had a large family of ten children, three of whom died young. His eldest son, James, married Maud, daughter of John Harrison of Manchester, and died in 1908, leaving three sons—Thomas Jessel (who died in 1914), John, and William Joseph; another son, Isaac, married Nellie, daughter of William Hammersley of Manchester, and had two daughters, Marjorie and Minnie. He now lives in Chester. The youngest son, Robert, was a private in "A" Co., 13th Manchester Regiment, Egyptian Force, and served for over two years in the Balkans during the Great War. He married Clara, daughter of Joshua and Maria Louise Hardman of Cheetham Hill, Manchester, 26th July, 1919, at St. Anne's church, Sale. One of the daughters, Agnes, who died 13th December, 1921, married John Gilbert Moore of Coventry, who served as a sapper in the R.E., P.S., in France. The other daughters are unmarried. Isaac, the youngest son of James Simpson of Chesterfield, was born 14th March, 1854. He is an engineer, and one of the directors of the celebrated firm of Craven Bros. (Manchester) Ltd., Reddish, Stockport, which firm he entered as a youth in March, 1873. He married Mary Jane, daughter of James Redmayne of Langcliffe, near Settle, Yorkshire, and has two children, Edmund and Marion. Edmund is also an

engineer in the firm of Craven Bros. He married Elsie, only daughter of William Gilman of Alderley Edge, Cheshire. Marion married George Jessel Rycroft, barrister-at-law, elder son of F. W. Roe Rycroft of Manchester, barrister-at-law. Her husband served as captain and adjutant in a tank battalion in France in the late war.

3.—John Simpson, the third son of Stephen Simpson of Preston, born 7th March, 1786, at Greta Bridge, was killed as a boy of 16 years of age at Greta Bridge, through the haystack which he was cutting at the time falling upon him. He was buried at Calf Copp meeting house, near Bentham, co. York.

4.—Stephen Simpson, the fourth son, born 7th August, 1791, at Greta Bridge, was a clockmaker in Preston for a time, but entered the gas engineering business soon after the introduction of coal gas for illuminating purposes. He was engaged in the erection of gas works, plant, etc., at Preston and Sheffield, and afterwards erected gas works at Mansfield, where he eventually settled down as a gas engineer, erecting many private gas plants for cotton mills, estates, etc. He commenced the manufacture of meters and other gas apparatus about the year 1824. He was a good mathematician, chemist, and mechanic, and invented a hydrometer and other instruments; also the method of measuring the fineness of cotton. He devised many methods of ensuring accuracy and interchangeability in the manufacture of meters, etc., which have only been generally adopted in recent years.

He married a lady from Kidderminster, whose name, I believe, was Ann Hall, and had two children, a son, Edmund—who succeeded to his business, and died in 1849 *sine prole* (this Edmund Simpson married Ann, daughter of Joseph Bower of Duffield, Derbyshire; after his death, his widow married her late husband's first cousin, Isaac Simpson, as before mentioned)—and a daughter, Eliza Burnell, who married Richard Saxton of Selston, Notts. Richard Saxton was the proprietor of the old coaching house at Selston, the "Bull and Butcher," on the Mansfield-Nottingham road, and was a helpless cripple when he married. Eliza was his second wife, and at the time of the marriage, which took place at Selston church, on 27th January, 1852, was the matron of the Mansfield workhouse. To celebrate the event she entertained the whole of the inmates at her new home. It is related of Richard Saxton that he had a dog turnout, and went regularly to Nottingham markets and goose fairs with his goods. The dogs ran in pairs, yoked to a long sleigh-type cart, and there were relays at various points on the road to Nottingham.

Richard Saxton afterwards removed to Somercotes, co. Derby. He died 21st December, 1878, aged 75 years, and was buried at Selston. The following doggerel epitaph appears on the gravestone:—

EDMUND SIMPSON

of Preston. Fifth son of Stephen Simpson.

From a miniature on porcelain.

"Afflicted sore, long time he bore,
Physicians were in vain.
God thought it best that he should rest
And free him from his pain."

His widow died in Manchester, 8th January, 1887, aged 69 years, and was buried at the Southern cemetery. There was one daughter of the marriage, Mary Alice, born 15th July, 1854, at Selston, who married Walter Woffenden of Didsbury, Manchester. Their only surviving child, Roby Saxton Woffenden, served in the R.N.V.R. during the late war, and he is now the sole representative of this branch of the family. He married Florrie, second daughter of Joseph and Mary Hoggins of Iron Bridge, Salop.

Stephen Simpson of Mansfield died 13th July, 1840. An obituary notice appeared in the *Nottingham Review* of 17th July, 1840, as follows:—

"Died

"On Monday last, after a lingering and painful indisposition, aged 51 (?49), Mr. Stephen Simpson, Superintendent of Mansfield Gas Works. He was a profound mathematician and one of the most ingenious mechanics in the Kingdom; of an ardent temperament he never ceased until he had succeeded in accomplishing any object no matter how abstruse.

"About 12 years ago, when considerable disputes existed at Nottingham as to the frauds in winding cotton lace, he invented a beautifully simple instrument, which tested the quantity to a certainty. This invention to supersede the hydrometer was allowed to be one of the most ingenious and accurate instruments ever made; so delicate was it that a single drop of water in a glass of spirits was at once detected. Having accomplished his invention, instead of profiting by it, he threw it aside as unworthy of further notice. In one of Mr. Green's aeronautic expeditions from Mansfield he was accompanied by Mr. Simpson, who was accustomed to speak with rapture of the aerial journey, and of the beautiful scenery presented to his view as he sailed over the rich domain of Hardwick and its splendid valley. Mr. Simpson was a native of Preston, and came to reside at Mansfield in the year 1823 or 1824. He was a man of generous disposition and highly respected."

5.—Edmund Simpson, the fifth son, born 17th October, 1794, at Greta Bridge, was a clockmaker at Preston. He married, 5th April, 1812, at the parish church, Preston, Ann Leeming of Preston, and had two children, John and Mary Ann, besides others who died young. This John Simpson was a mechanical engineer. He invested his money in Fergus O'Connor's land scheme in Ireland, lived there two or three years, but when he and others took their produce to markets they were boycotted. Subsequently, he was obliged to give up the land and he returned to England. He died in Manchester in

1852. By his wife, Betty, he had a daughter, Esther, and, I believe, a son, named Edmund, but nothing is known of them.

Mary Ann, daughter of Edmund Simpson, married, 29th June, 1840, at St. Jude's Episcopal church, Glasgow, Jacob Curnow, of St. Ives, Cornwall, a descendant of an old Cornish family. Mr. Curnow was a supervisor of taxes, and lived at many places, notably at Garstang, co. Lancaster, Salisbury (where his wife died), and at Sherborne and Gillingham, in Dorset. He died at the last-mentioned place. There was issue of the marriage one son and three daughters, viz.: Jacob Curnow of Shaftesbury, Dorset (he is now living; sixty years ago he joined the Rifle Brigade of the Dorset Volunteer Corps of Sherborne and Gillingham, and formed one of the guard of honour at Sherborne when his late Majesty King Edward VII. was married); Mary Jane, who married Edward Hill of Sherborne; Ann, who married Heinrich Brandt of Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia; and Thomazine, who married John Pittuck, also of Bundaberg.

One of the grandchildren, James Horace Hill of Walthamstow, Essex, is a keen genealogist, and has traced his father's family back to the fifteenth century.

Edmund Simpson died 4th September, 1820, at the early age of 25 years, and was buried at Preston parish church. His wife, Ann, died 26th October, 1817, aged 27 years.

6.—My grandfather, Isaac Simpson, the sixth and youngest son of Stephen Simpson, was a gold thread manufacturer at Preston, a business founded by him in 1829. He will be more particularly mentioned in a separate chapter.

Mary, the eldest daughter of Stephen Simpson of Preston, was born 29th May, 1784, at Greta Bridge, and married three times: first, William Sutton of Preston, sizer; secondly, Joseph Melling of Preston; and thirdly, Capt. James Taylor of Glasgow. In a letter written in 1823 to her by her brother Isaac, just before her second marriage, of which he did not approve, he describes his sister as follows: "First is thyself and condition, as for thee thou art in person as good looking (this is the real sentiment of my mind and not at all touched with the least flattery) I say as good looking a woman as any need be and as good tempered, which is an amiable virtue in a woman, and as for a feeling heart, never a bosum in the world contained one that is more generous, of which I have felt it to the greatest extent; as for thy condition, thou wert left very awkward, but now thou art, as we were talking, worth at least £150 a year." She was a remarkably clever business woman, and in March, 1833, she went to reside at Glasgow, to act as agent there for her brother Isaac in the gold thread business. Many of her letters have been preserved, which shew her to have been a deeply religious woman. She died 6th December, 1843, and was buried at Glasgow necropolis. By her first

MRS. MARY TAYLOR

of Glasgow. Eldest daughter of Stephen Simpson of Preston.

From an oil painting.

marriage, which took place on 15th August, 1803, at the parish church, Preston, she had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married John Satterthwaite, manager of the Lancaster Bank, Ulverston, a member of an old Quaker family of Colthouse, near Hawkeshead. Of this marriage there were twelve children, three of whom married, viz.: Septimus Satterthwaite of Ulverston to Agnes Cottam of Witherslack, co. Lancaster; Agnes to John Winder of Wavertree, Liverpool; and Elizabeth to Thomas Garnett of Harborne, co. Warwick. They all three had children. Mrs. Winder took a great interest in her connection with the Simpson family, and had the graves in the parish churchyard, Preston, and the necropolis, Glasgow, put into order a few years before her death in 1902. Her only daughter, Mary Elizabeth, now the wife of Alfred Fell of Belle Vue, Ulverston, has very kindly allowed me to have copies made of the portrait of Mrs. Mary Taylor, and of the miniature of Edmund Simpson, which are now in her possession.

Elizabeth, the second daughter, was born 12th July, 1788, at Greta Bridge. When 16 years of age, she ran off with William Pennington of Preston to Gretna Green to be married, knowing that her parents would be much against the union on account of her age. After the elopement had been forgiven by her parents and the young couple had settled down "on their own," the wedding was ratified at Preston parish church on 31st December, 1804. Her husband was an engineer in the employ of Horrockses, Miller & Co. The children of the marriage were Stephen, who died young; Miles, in the employ of the Preston and Wyre Railway, who died in May, 1833; Elizabeth, who went to Australia about 1848-9, and was then unmarried; Margaret, who married a man named Worthington, in the employ of the London and North-Western Railway, and lived at Carnforth; William of Preston, mechanical engineer; and Mary, who died young. Elizabeth Pennington died 9th January, 1844, and was buried at the Preston parish church.

Margaret, the third daughter, born 14th August, 1797, at Greta Bridge, married, 18th August, 1817, at the parish church, Preston, Edward Allen of Preston, shoemaker, son of George Allen of Leatherhead, Surrey, and had issue nine children—three sons and six daughters, some of whom died young. The family removed to Kendal, and afterwards to Leigh, near Manchester. The second son, Stephen Allen, was for many years the representative of my grandfather, Isaac Simpson, in the gold thread business in Glasgow, and later went to reside in Preston. He married Mary Ann, daughter of William Stubbs of Manchester, on 20th August, 1849, at Rusholme Road Congregational chapel, Manchester, and had, with other children who died young, three daughters, viz.: Eliza, widow of George Sanderson of Manchester; Mary, wife of Herbert Crooke, F.C.I.S. of London; and Fanny, who is unmarried. Mrs. Allen died 1st March, 1922, in the 100th year of her age, and was buried at the necropolis, Glasgow. Major Sidney Egerton Crooke, late R.F.A.

(T.F.), the youngest son of Herbert Crooke, F.C.I.S. of London, by his wife, Mary, second daughter of Stephen and Mary Ann Allen, commanded one of the batteries of the 286th Brigade, R.F.A., of the 57th Division, in the Great War, and received the Military Cross. He is now a motor engineer in the works of Crossley Motors Limited, at Manchester, and has designed and built an ingenious machine, which has been installed to aid in the production of the new Crossley 19·6 h.p. model. It is a three-head multi-spindle drilling machine for drilling 56 holes at one operation in the cylinder block. The time occupied is $3\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. The cylinder block is placed on a carriage, which is mounted on ball bearings, ready to be pushed home into the jig. It is lifted on to the location spigots by means of an operation hand wheel. There is a universal knuckle-joint drive, which operates the drills. Major Crooke is an M.I.M.E.

Four of the daughters of Margaret Allen married, viz.: (1) Esther to the Revd. George Scott, a Wesleyan Methodist minister, and had issue as follows: Margaret Simpson, died aged 24, at Hull, unmarried; Annie Elizabeth, widow of the Revd. John W. Brooker, sometime rector of Ribchester, co. Lancaster; the Revd. Henri Arnaud Scott, Wesleyan Methodist minister; Sarah Jane, wife of Henry Blanch of Stroud, Gloucester; Albert George Scott of London, barrister-at-law; and Mary Esther, wife of Charles H. Cooper of London. Esther Scott, *née* Allen, lived with her aunt, Mrs. Mary Taylor, at Glasgow, before her marriage. (2) Elizabeth twice—first to Henry Parkin of Glasgow, and second to George Boden of Manchester, and had a daughter by each marriage; the elder daughter, Mary Lucy Parkin, who died 17th August, 1922, married John Crosby of Manchester, and had, with other children, two sons, John Allen and Harold, who served in the Canadian Infantry during the late war; the younger daughter, Annie Boden, is unmarried. (3) Ann to James Holland of Manchester, and had issue. (4) Sarah twice—first to Hugh Smith of Chester, and second to Richard Llewellyn of Buxton, co. Derby, but had no children. Margaret Allen died 24th July, 1843, and was buried at Leigh.

All the nine children of Stephen Simpson by his first wife, Elizabeth, were born members of the Society of Friends. It is curious, however, that they all, except one son, who died young, severed their connection with the Society. The following extracts from the Minutes of the Preston Monthly Meeting are interesting, and shew how well the early Quakers looked after their members:—

"7th of 11th Month 1809.

"6. A Certificate from Settle Monthly Meeting dated 11th of 10th Month 1809 on behalf of Stephen, Edmund, Margtt and Isaac, all Minors, sons and daughters of Stephen and Elizabeth Simpson, has

this day been received, read and accepted by this Meeting. Geo. Rigg and Wm. Malley to pay them a visit in conjunction with the Women Friends and inform them thereof."

"9. Minute of Settle Monthly Meeting dated 11th of 10th Mo. 1809. Being informed that Margtt (?Mary) and Elizabeth, daughters of Stephen and Elizabeth Simpson, are married in a manner contrary to the Rules of our Society and as we believe they reside within the compass of Preston Monthly Meeting.
Charles Parker is requested to desire the said Meeting to visit and deal with them on our account and report the result thereof.
This meeting appoints Wm. Malley and David Wilcockson to pay them a visit and report."

"5th of 12th Mo. 1809.
"5. The Friends appointed to visit Mary Simpson now Sutton and Elizabeth Simpson now Pennington report they have had an opportunity with each of them and that they acknowledge they were both married by a Priest some years since contrary to Friends Rules. The Clerk is directed to send a Copy to Settle Monthly Meeting."

"6th of 2nd Month 1810.
"3. We have this day received two Copys of Minutes of Disownment from Settle Monthly Meeting both dated 1st Mo. 10th 1810 against Mary Sutton (late Simpson) and Elizabeth Pennington (late Simpson) both Members of that Meeting for marrying contrary to Friends Rules.
This Meeting appoints David Wilcockson and Ralph Alderson to give them the said Copys and report."

"6th of 3rd Mo. 1810.
"3. David Wilcockson reports the minutes of Disownment against Mary Sutton and Elizth Pennington was delivered to them, the Clerk is desired to inform Settle Monthly Meeting thereof."

"30th of 3rd Mo. 1812.
"5. One of our Overseers informs this Meeting that there is a strong reason to believe that Edward (?Edmund*) Simpson a young man, a member of this Meeting has a young woman with child. This Meeting appoints Wm. Malley and Ralph Alderson to visit him and report to next Meeting."

"6. Stephen Simpson a young man, a Member of this Meeting having almost wholly absented himself from the attendance of our Religious

* Edmund Simpson was known as Ned or Neddy, usually short for Edward. Hence the mistake in the record. He was only 17 when he was married on the 5th April, 1812.

Meetings, altho he has been frequently laboured with, this Meeting appoints Jno, Harrison Senr., Willm. Malley, and Ralph Alderson to visit him and report to next Meeting."

"5th of 5th Month 1812.

"4. The Friends appointed to visit Edward Simpson on account of a report of last month have not paid that visit, they have been informed he has since got married to the same young woman by a Priest, which is contrary to Friends rules, his case is therefore continued and David Wilcockson's name is added to the two former Friends to visit him."

"5. The Friends appointed to visit Stephen Simpson on account of none attendance of Meetings, have not paid that visit it is therefore continued."

"2nd of 6th Month 1812.

"4. William Malley reports that two of the Friends appointed to visit Edward Simpson have attended to that appointment and that he acknowledged having been married by a Priest to a young woman not of our Society and that she was pregnant by him before the Marriage. This meeting cant unite with his conduct and appoints John Harrison Sen^r^ and Michael Satterthwaite to prepare a Testimony of Disownment against him and produce it at our next Meeting."

"5. Stephen Simpson's case is continued under this Meeting's care.

"29th of 6th Month 1812.

"4. The Friends appointed to draw a Testimony of Disownment against Edward Simpson have produced the same, which has been read approved and signed by the Clerk on behalf of this Meeting. Wm. Malley and David Wilcockson are appointed to hand him a Copy."

"5. Stephen Simpson's case is continued."

"4th of 8th Month 1812.

"3. William Malley reports Edward Simpson had a Copy of his Disownment given him agreeable to appointment."

"4. This Meeting is of the judgement that Stephen Simpson's case should be brought to a conclusion and as he is now removed to Kidderminster Wm. Malley is requested to make enquiry what monthly Meeting he is removed into and report."

"1st of 9th Mo. 1812.

"Stephen Simpson's case is continued."

"5th of 10th Mo. 1812.

"Stephen Simpson's case is continued."

"3rd of 11th Mo. 1812.

"3. This Meeting appoints Michael Satterthwaite and William Malley to draw up a Testimony of Disownment against Stephen Simpson and to produce the same at our next Meeting."

"1st of 12th Mo. 1812.

"3. The Friends app. to draw up a Testimony of Disownment against Stephen Simpson have produced one and appoint Michael Satterthwaite to get a Copy of the same handed to him."

"12th of 1st Mo. 1813.

"3. Michael Satterthwaite reports that the Testimony of Disownment was handed to Stephen Simpson."

"2nd 9th Mo. 1817.

"5. We are informed by our Overseers that a visit hath been paid to Margt Simpson and Isaac Simpson (who were born Members of our Society, but were not brought up to attend our Meetings nor educated in our Principles) on account of their none attendance of our religious Meetings. They expressed to the Friends that they had not any inclination to be considered Members of our Society which this Meeting accepts as their resignation.

Will. Malley is appointed to hand them a copy of this Minute and report."

CHAPTER VI.

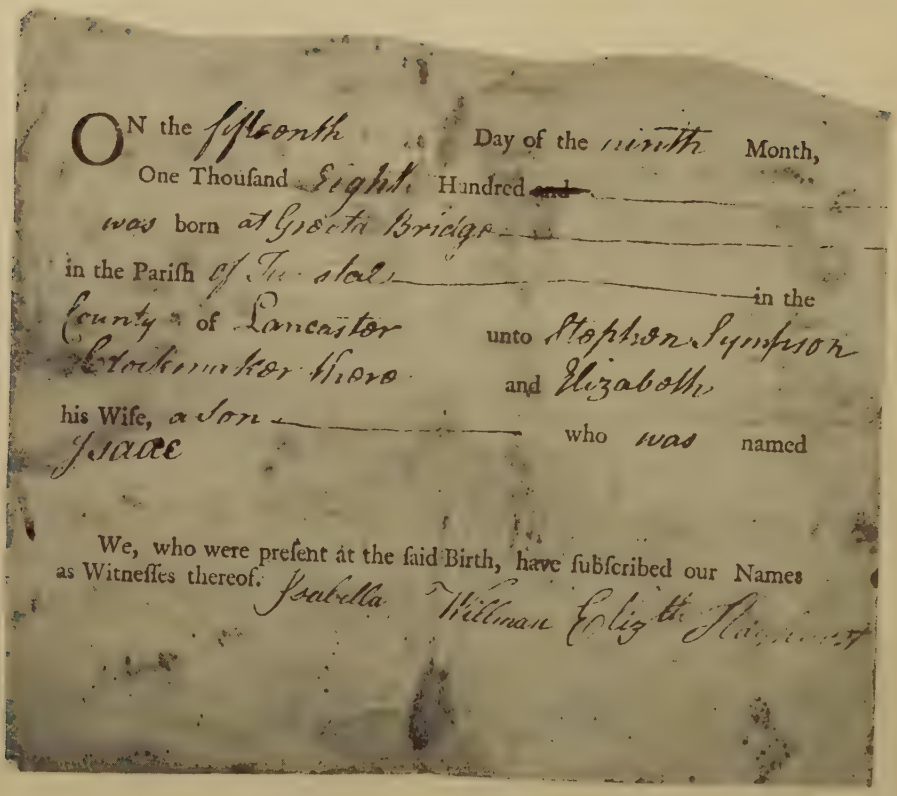
East Cliff House, Preston.

WE may now turn our attention to my grandfather, Isaac Simpson, the founder of the celebrated gold thread business in the year 1829. He was the sixth son and youngest child of Stephen Simpson of Preston, clockmaker, and was born 15th September, 1800, at Greta Bridge, where his parents then resided. His birth was duly recorded in the registers of the Society of Friends, which are kept at the Central Offices, Devonshire House, 12, Bishopsgate Without, London, and I now have the original certificate written on parchment. He came to Preston with his parents when nearly four years of age, and, after leaving school, was apprenticed to his father in his trade of a clockmaker. On the 4th December, 1820, he married Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Robert Hargraves of Skipton, watch and clock maker, at the parish church, Preston, and started business on his own account at Market Street, Chorley, a small town nine miles south of Preston. I remember my grandmother very well; she was a sweet old woman, and had been quite a beauty in her younger days, with her fair hair and bluey grey eyes. She was very fond of children, and every Christmas she sent each of her numerous grandchildren a gold sovereign. On the last Christmas before she died, which was just after the birth of my fifth sister, she jokingly told my father that if there were any more additions before the next one, she would be obliged to reduce the amount for each of her grandchildren. This never happened, for she died on the 2nd January in the following year, viz., 1871. One day, soon after her marriage, she saw a coach passing through Chorley called "Mary Ann." This annoyed her so much that ever afterwards she refused to acknowledge that Ann was her second name, and she dropped its use entirely.

I now have the brass name-plate from the door of the house where my grandparents lived. It is engraved "Simpson, Pocket Chronometer and patent lever watch maker." A wall clock, made by Isaac Simpson, is now in the possession of his great-grandson, and my nephew, Stephen Simpson. He

ISAAC SIMPSON

of East Cliff House, Preston, and Mary, his wife.



ON the fifteenth Day of the ninth Month,
One Thousand Eight Hundred and
was born at Goose Bridge
in the Parish of Tunstall in the
County of Lancaster unto Stephen Simpson
Stockbroker Hero and Elizabeth
his Wife, a Son who was named
Isaac

We, who were present at the said Birth, have subscribed our Names
as Witnesses thereof. Isabella Willman Eliz^th Harrison

BIRTH CERTIFICATE OF ISAAC SIMPSON.

kept it for his own use during his lifetime. This clock has a white painted face, with the name "Isaac Simpson, Chorley" thereon, in black script letters, and is enclosed in a mahogany case. He also made a gold chronometer watch for himself, which has descended to his same great-grandson. During his residence at Chorley, he wrote a book entitled, *A Treatise on practical watch making, shewing the method of finishing verge, double steel wheel, rack and detached levers, duplex and pocket chronometer watches. In a familiar dialogue between father and son*, by Isaac Simpson, watchmaker, Chorley. The introduction is quaint, and is as follows: "Among the various works, which have from time to time been published on the subject of watch making I know of none whose author has had for his particular object the instruction of a novice in the art, nor know of any whose works are calculated to bring such an one to a thorough knowledge of his trade. It has been the practice of those, who have already written on the subject, never to descend sufficiently to minute particulars, but, taking a general view of the whole, have left out that particular information which a practical man feels most at a loss for and so left one, who would improve and work by their instructions, as much in the dark as ever. Their system has unfortunately been too deep and abstruse for a man who has not had the advantages of a mathematical education, and has bothered those who stand most in need of improvement, with Algebraic or Geometrical solutions. The result has been that the works already published are not so generally useful as they would otherwise have been.

"I hope nothing intricate or perplex will be found in this work, my object being to present those, who have not had the opportunity of being instructed in some manufactory, or with a finisher, with a plain intelligible discourse, and at the same time to convey such requisite information, that with strict attention and practice he may so perfect himself as to be fit to commence business with credit to himself in any situation whatever.

"I know not what may be the opinion of this work by many self-conceited wiseacres, who fancy all knowledge concentrated within themselves, and whose study is to keep the rest of the trade in darkness. I have no reason to expect anything but slander to be attached to the work from such, but as thorough learned as those consider themselves, if they will give this work a careful perusal I doubt not but they will find something which they were utterly unacquainted with before, altho absolutely requisite to be known by every watchmaker.

"Relying, however, as I do on the certainty that I shall have sufficient employment whilst I profess the trade, I know of nothing like a substantial argument why I should not forward as much as possible everyone following the same pursuit, seeing that it is ultimately for the good of the community at large.

"There are many systems of composition, but having had something else to do than make literature my study, I have chosen dialogue as being best calculated to answer my purpose. I am perfectly aware that it requires very considerable talent to represent and maintain the true spirit of a real conversation uniformly and throughout a work, especially if of considerable length and including a variety of subjects, but, altho it requires much learning to do it in a proper manner (which I here wish it to be particularly understood that I have no pretention whatever to such learning) yet I conceive that if it be done tolerably well, it is better calculated to give instruction in any art than any other sort of composition whatever, for a question may be put direct and in such a manner as to bring forth an answer exactly suitable to the information required. Another reason for selecting this sort of composition is that the instruction of a master to an apprentice during the time of his servitude is nothing else than a dialogue."

He also wrote some calculations for the use of clockmakers, the title page is: *Calculations of clocks with striking parts, both rack and locking wheel for 8 days and 30 hours and dial work for each sort, so that any person, understanding anything about clockmaking, may with very little study make himself master of that useful art of which so many are unacquainted with, the whole written from personal experience and for the instruction of mine for generations yet to come that will give themselves trouble to copy them; together with a table of lengths of pendulums for any given number of vibrations in a minute from 1 to 180,* by Isaac Simpson, watch and clockmaker, Chorley, Lancashire.

In the same book are receipts of various kinds that will be found useful to clock and watch makers, including, among others, how to make lacquer, to make silvering, to make white varnish so as to preserve the above-mentioned silvering twenty years, to make silver solder, to divide the circumference of a circle into any given number of equal parts, whether odd or even, etc.

Both books are in his own handwriting. I hope sometime to have them printed, as I think the information given might be of interest to the clock and watch makers of the present day.

In the year 1823, Isaac Simpson was initiated a member of the Loyal Pilot Lodge, No. 33, of the Chorley district of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, and in the same year he bought six cottages in Canal Street, Preston, with his first savings.

Isaac Simpson was, however, ambitious, and was not satisfied with his prospects of making his fortune as a clockmaker. The opportunity for using his mechanical talents in a more lucrative manner came to him very unexpectedly.

In the latter part of the eighteenth century, two French women had settled at Chorley to supply gold plate, flattened from wire obtained from France,

WALL CLOCK

made by Isaac Simpson, Chorley, about 1821.

for the Lancashire cotton manufacturers for use in the headings of the cotton cloths. At various times they took their rollers to Isaac Simpson, the clock-maker, who had the necessary tools, to repair and polish them. After a time he began to think it might be worth while to flatten the wire himself; accordingly he obtained a pair of rollers from Krupp of Essen, Germany, for which he paid £100, made a machine to drive them, and in the year 1829 began to flatten gold wire for the Lancashire trade on his own account. He was then asked by a local cotton manufacturer if he could construct a machine for making gold thread, and, being of a mechanical family, after many trials he ultimately succeeded; subsequently, in 1853, he patented the machine. After carrying on the business for about two years in Chorley, he decided to remove to Preston, where he thought he would have more scope. Accordingly, in November, 1831, he took a house in Fox Street, and seven years later removed to Cross Street, where his machinery was turned by a donkey (Jenny), walking round the yard. In 1840 he again removed, and settled in Avenham Road. Here he lived until 1854, and built the adjoining works. About the year 1832, Isaac Simpson made the acquaintance of Henry William Johnson of London, gold wire drawer, with whom he had extensive dealings in gold wires, etc., and in 1842 they together agreed to purchase the old-established business of Van & Turner, gold lacemen and embroiderers, of 9/10, Little Britain, London, which had then been established for over a hundred years. This business was continued under the name of "Johnson & Simpson" until 1848, when George Simons, an employee of the firm, was taken in as a junior partner, and the name became "Johnson, Simpson & Simons." In addition to the gold thread business, he was also interested in cotton spinning, and was the joint owner, with H. W. Johnson, of the Cottage Street and Parker Street Cotton Spinning Mills, Preston.

Isaac Simpson was a great lover of the game of chess, and had a miniature pocket set made for himself in ivory, which he invariably carried about with him. In an account of "Chess in Preston," written by Mr. I. A. Denham, which appeared in the *Preston Chronicle* 21st January, 1913, and which was taken from particulars supplied by the late Mr. Henry Stanley, after describing the introduction of the game at the Mechanics' Institute, in Cannon Street, about the year 1840, he mentions the following anecdote: "A frequent visitor to the chess class was Mr. Isaac Simpson, gold thread manufacturer, father of the late Mr. Stephen Simpson, J.P. This gentleman, though extremely fond of the game of chess, would never play a game, but contented himself with looking on. He was, however, an indefatigable problem solver, and although he had a large business to attend, he contrived to devote most of his afternoons and evenings to solutions. Mr. Stanley states that one Saturday evening he was invited by Mr. Simpson to assist him in solving a problem, and they became so deeply interested in the process that, to the

horror of Mr. Simpson, a very religious man, the clock struck one on Sunday morning before they were aware of the time."

He was admitted into the freedom of the city of London on the 5th November, 1844.

Isaac Simpson bought some land on East Cliff, Preston, in 1852, on which to build a house. The foundation stone was laid by his son, Stephen, on his twenty-first birthday, 9th June, 1853. The house was named "East Cliff House," and was for over fifty years the residence of the family in Preston. It is beautifully situated on the edge of the cliff, facing south-east, overlooking the Avenham Park and the valley, with the river Ribble winding through it. From the house there is a most extensive view of the surrounding country, with Hoghton Tower and Rivington Pyke in the distance. As a boy, Isaac Simpson often walked over the site, and determined when he had enough money to buy the land and build a house thereon. Immediately after he had bought the land, Mr. Thomas Miller, one of the partners of the celebrated firm of Horrockses, Miller & Co., who was a business friend, approached him and tried to induce him to transfer the site to him, but he refused. Mr. Miller was very annoyed, and, in consequence, for many years afterwards, he entirely severed his business connection with Isaac Simpson. Mr. Miller afterwards bought a site on the north side of Winckley Square, and built his house there instead.

Isaac Simpson died at East Cliff House 23rd March, 1859, before he had reached the age of 59 years, and was buried at the Preston cemetery. By his will, dated 3rd April, 1858, which was proved at Lancaster 16th September, 1859, he left the house to his wife for her life, and she resided there until her death in 1871. The executors of the will were Henry William Johnson of London; John Goodair of Preston, cotton spinner; and Henry Crane Walton of Preston, auctioneer. His personal estate was sworn under £40,000. He had five sons and two daughters.

1.—Edmund, the eldest son, was brought up as a watchmaker, and later entered the gold thread business. He, like all the members of his family, was of a mechanical turn of mind, and invented an improved safety apparatus to be attached to cages to prevent accidents in ascending or descending coal or other mines. He claimed that, by the arrangements he had made, the fearful accidents through the rope breaking, of which there were many records, would be effectually prevented. Down the sides of the shaft, rods were fixed having ratchet teeth cut on the faces. In case of the rope breaking, pawls fixed to the cage were released and immediately engaged the teeth in the rods, so that the cage was suspended. This was the first device for the prevention of accidents, and a similar arrangement is now used in coal-mines, goods and passenger lifts. The invention was patented in 1857. For a

EAST CLIFF HOUSE, PRESTON.

time Edmund Simpson lived in London, where, in 1843, he married Helena Deane, a sister of the wife of George Simons, his father's partner in the London business. On her death he returned to Preston. He married, secondly, his first cousin, Mary Porter, daughter of Thomas Simpson of Preston, and died in 1881 without issue.

2.—Isaac, the second son, learnt cotton spinning, and afterwards travelled on the Continent as representative for Messrs. Elce & Cottam, a firm of cotton machinery makers of Manchester. He was a very clever linguist, and could speak fluently in French, Flemish and German, and a little Italian. His letters to his family from the various places he visited abroad are full of interest. Writing from Lille in 1853, when speaking of the cotton manufacturers in Ghent, Belgium, he states: "They have nearly all Swiss managers, who are certainly sharp fellows, but they miss that English system of doing things as we do, but as compensation, they work for 15 to 20 francs per week and the hours are from $5\frac{1}{2}$ till $8\frac{1}{2}$ or 9 or $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9. There is no ten hours Bill. Everyone works as long as he likes. Here in France there is a twelve hours Bill, that is to say, they work from 6 to 8, but they have no inspectors, and the law is sadly infringed. There is a mill ten yards from where I am staying; yesterday, Saturday, they started at $5\frac{1}{2}$ and worked till 9 last night." And in another letter, written the same year, from Ghent, he says: "It is certain that the workpeople here are miserably paid, a spinner for 14 hours a day can only gain 15 or 16 francs a week (12s. 6d. to 13s. 4d.), and the card room hands 4s. 2d. to 5s. 0d., and a weaver 6s. 8d. to 7s. 0d., whilst the spinners make a profit of at least $1\frac{1}{2}$d. per pound. A turnout here is a terrible affair, as according to the laws no body of men can join together for the purpose of coercing the masters, if they do, the soldiers are upon them directly." Isaac Simpson married twice, his first wife being Mary Ann, daughter of J. Nunn of Preston, and his second wife, Anastasie Gilliette Hubertine, second daughter of Joseph de Maugeer* of Mons, Belgium, Officier du 1re Empire Francais and Major de l'armée Belge, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur et de l'ordre de Leopold, and Marie Thérèse Jeanne Flore, his wife, only daughter of Jacques Bernard de le Croix, Capitaine des Grenadiers au Service d'Autriche annoblé par Joseph II. By his second wife he had one

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* Extract from Eugène Cruyplants' Histoire Illustrée d'un corps Belge au service de la République et de l'Empire. La 112e Demi-Brigade, published by Libraire militaire Spineux & Cie Bruxelles 1902:—

"Joseph de Maugeer et son frère Jean-Philippe, caporal au régiment appartenaient à une famille noble, et ancienne; plusieurs de leurs lettres sont scellées aux armes de leurs ancêtres; l'écu est écartelé: *aux un et quatre, d'azur à une fleur de lys d'argent; aux deux et trois, de sable à une étoile d'or.*

"Leur père Jean Philippe de Maugeer, fut capitaine au service du prince-évêque de Liége et reçut ensuite une pension annuelle et viagère de la république batave; leur mère Marie-Constance de Massart était la fille d'un jurisconsulte distingué; les aïeux paternels et maternels des deux jeunes voluntaires avaient rendu de grands services à la ville de Liége, comme bourgmestres, en 1691. Leur oncle H. de Maugeer fut colonel d'artillerie et ambassadeur du duc de Parme."

son, Isaac Joseph Simpson of Brussels. This son married Sylvie Licot of Val St. Lambert, Belgium, and had four children—two sons and two daughters. The elder son, Georges, served in the Belgian Army at the beginning of the Great War, and was killed in action in 1914. He has since been nominated Chevalier de l'ordre de Leopold II., and has been awarded the croix de guerre. The younger son, Albert, died 24th October, 1918. Both sons were unmarried. The two daughters are Jeanne and Anna: the latter lives with her parents at Ganshoren, near Brussels. Isaac Simpson died 7th August, 1882, and was buried at Harmondsworth, Middlesex.

3.—Robert Hargraves died young, and was buried in the parish churchyard, Preston.

4.—My father, Stephen, of whom presently.

5.—Robert Hargraves, the youngest son, was in the Merchant Service, which he joined at the age of 19 years. The following is a record of the voyages he made: Barque *Chilena*, Capt. T. Wakeham, sailed from Liverpool to Valparaiso 25th March, 1854; arrived in Liverpool 31st January, 1855; Barque *Chilena*, Capt. T. Wakeham, sailed from Liverpool to Singapore, Hong Kong, and Foochow 18th April, 1855; arrived in Liverpool 10th April, 1856. Ship *Seahorse*, Capt. T. Parfitt, sailed from Liverpool to Calcutta 5th September, 1856; arrived in Liverpool, 15th July, 1857. Steamship *Maeander*, Capt. J. Brooking, sailed from Liverpool to Mediterranean ports, viz., Palermo, Corfu, Trieste, Messina, Gibraltar, Zante, etc., 30th September, 1857; arrived in Liverpool 18th November, 1857. Ship *Chrysolite*, Capt. McClellan, sailed from London to Shanghai 7th January, 1858; arrived in London 24th November, 1858.

On the death of his father in 1859, he gave up the sea and went to live at Ghent, where he married a Belgian lady, Jeannette Josephine, daughter of Peter Van Leaucourt and Rosalie (Vandehaeghen), his wife, by whom he had one son, who died young. After his wife's death in 1865, he returned to England, and soon afterwards married a widow, and had another son, who also died young. He died in Liverpool 15th March, 1886, and was buried at Anfield cemetery.

The two daughters of Isaac Simpson were Elizabeth (who married Alexander Hamilton Cameron of Preston, and died without issue) and Mary, who married George Frederick Hinshelwood of Manchester, cloth merchant, formerly of Glasgow. Her husband, as a young man, was in the employ of Messrs. C. Carati & Co., Greek merchants, in Glasgow. At the beginning of the year 1851, when he was 24 years of age, in mentioning his business experiences in one of his letters, he states: "I have had a good deal, and have oftentimes for three or four months at a stretch, the entire conducting of our business to manage, which you may know is not a small one, when we

turn over from £15,000 to £20,000 a month; the books I keep; I have also a large share of the buying business to transact and when customers come down to Glasgow have generally to attend to them in the selling department; the English correspondence in our business I have the entire charge of, as also the receiving and paying of cash, so that my abilities in all the various departments of mercantile life have been more or less tested." Shortly afterwards, on 23rd March, 1851, he accepted the post offered to him, viz., to go into the Manchester commission trade in partnership with his future father-in-law, Isaac Simpson, and he removed to Manchester in May, 1851. By his great diligence and determined perseverance, he built up a magnificent business, from which he retired in the year 1882, and went to live at Torquay, South Devon. Through his mother, a Miss Macmillan, he was descended from the ancient Scottish family of Sempill. The marriage took place on 25th July, 1855, at the parish church, Preston, and there was issue thirteen children. One son and one daughter died young, two sons died unmarried, and five sons, viz., George Frederick, Clyde Campbell, Alfred Ernest, Sidney Brougham (a Fleet paymaster, R.N.), and Norman Macmillan, and four daughters, all married and had children. The daughters married as follows: Mary Lillias twice—first to Alexander Duncan Matheson of Manchester, and secondly to Frederick Knowles; Florence Elizabeth to Montague Bigg Copland of Preston, cotton spinner, a magistrate for the county of Lancaster; Violet Ethelind to Colonel Dennett Thomas Kinder of the Devonshire Regiment; and Pauline May to Alexander John Watson of Torquay.

Mrs. Hinshelwood died at Bournemouth, 13th October, 1901; her husband died at Torquay, 17th October, 1909, and both were buried at Bournemouth cemetery.

My father, Stephen Simpson, the fourth and third surviving son of Isaac Simpson of East Cliff House, Preston, was born at 13, Fox Street, Preston, 9th June, 1832, and was baptized at Chorley parish church, with his brother, Robert, on 9th August, 1835, when just over three years of age. He has often told me he well remembered his baptism, and that before the ceremony he urged his young brother not to cry, but that when he was himself sprinkled he cried lustily. He received his early education at the preparatory school of Mr. R. Rogers, Blackpool, and afterwards went to Tulketh Hall Academy, a rival of the Preston Grammar School. The school was established about the year 1842. Its first principal was George Edmondson, who was a member of the Society of Friends. It had its own magazine, called "Tulketh Hall Mercury," on the first page of which was a wood-cut engraving of Tulketh Hall, showing a castellated building, with a dense background of lofty trees. In the summer of 1847, Wm. Thistlethwaite, formerly head-master of Penketh School, near Warrington, took charge of the school, and soon afterwards he took into partnership with him Dr. Michael Satterthwaite. In consequence of

the beautiful Tulketh woods being cut down, the neighbourhood becoming spoiled, and the lease of their school expiring, the partners decided to build new premises at Lindow Grove, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, and they removed there in 1853. Tulketh Hall is still in existence, and is now St. Thomas's R.C. Boys' Home.

Stephen Simpson married, 2nd March, 1859, at the parish church, Preston, Jane, eldest child, and eventually co-heiress, of Richard Yates of Preston, by his wife, Isabella, daughter of James Forshaw of Preston.

My mother was of a quiet and retiring disposition, very even-tempered, and nothing worried her. As a girl, she was considered good-looking, with a fresh complexion, dark hair, and soft brown eyes. Though she had a large family of nine, she was not particularly fond of children. She was most industrious, and gave up a lot of her spare time to fancy work and crochet. Her great delight was playing accompaniments on the piano to my father's violin. Her grandfather, James Forshaw, was a contemporary and friend of the celebrated 12th Earl of Derby, after whom the classic race was named, and one of her uncles, Edward Stanley William Forshaw, was a godson of the same earl, and was so named after him. Through her grandmother, Jane, wife of James Forshaw and daughter of John Pickering of Gregson Lane, Walton-le-Dale, by his wife, Mary, daughter of Henry Barns of Farington, my mother was a distant cousin of Thomas Butler Cole of Kirkland Hall, Lancashire, Esq., and was allied to the families of Clarke, who succeeded to the Kirkland Hall estates, Aspinall of Liverpool, and Birley of Milbanke, Kirkham, Lancashire, and of Bartle Hall, near Preston. (See the Pedigree Register II. 341, III. 129, published by George Sherwood.)

The *Preston Chronicle* of Saturday, 5th March, 1859, records: "On Wednesday morning last at the wedding breakfast at the residence of Mr. Yates in Ribblesdale Place the Revd. Canon Parr, Vicar, was the medium of presenting to Mr. Stephen Simpson on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Yates, the following address from the workpeople in the employ of Messrs. Isaac Simpson & Son:—

"'To Mr. Stephen Simpson, from the persons engaged at the Works in Avenham Road:

"'DEAR SIR,—We take advantage of the interesting event of this day to express to you our sentiments of affection and respect. We beg to offer to you our warmest congratulations on your entrance on the beautiful relations of married life. Having known you intimately, we have had the best means of making ourselves acquainted with your excellent qualities of head and heart. In affectionate testimony of our strong regard for you we desire your acceptance of the Family Bible which we now place in your hands. We wish you to value it because on it the lasting interests of every home must be

JANE,

Wife of Stephen Simpson, Esq., J.P., and eldest daughter of Richard Yates of Preston.

STEPHEN SIMPSON, ESQ., J.P.

of East Cliff House, Preston.

founded; from it, domestic happiness can be constantly obtained and through it, the great life of the future can be most thoroughly assured. But we also wish you to value it as an expression of our esteem for your character and our interest in your well being. May you be as happy in your married life, as you deserve to be, and may you continue to be increasingly respected and beloved. As years bring to you new duties, may God strengthen you to perform them; and may He, who is the Father of families, have you ever in His keeping.

"'We are, dear Sir, Your affectionate friends—Preston March 2, 1859.'

"Having read it the Revd. Gentleman handed to the Bridegroom a large copy of the Holy Scriptures, magnificently bound, accompanying the presentation with some appropriate and feeling remarks.

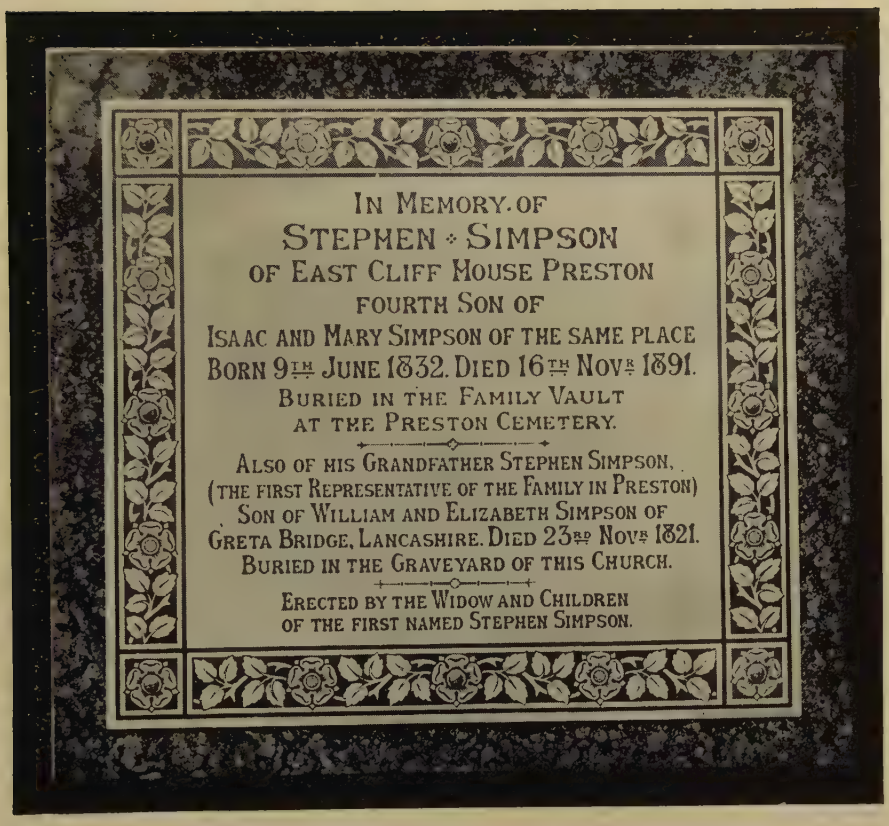
"In the evening Mr. Stephen Simpson entertained the workpeople and a number of their friends to a tea party at the Works, which was kept up with much spirit by singing, dancing etc., till a late hour."

Between 1864 and 1870, my father occupied a seat in the Preston Town Council as the representative of St. John's Ward. A small brochure, "Preston Town Council, 1870," written by "Atticus" (A. Hewitson), and published at the *Chronicle* Office, gives a short account of his life up to that time, and is as follows:—"Mr. Stephen Simpson, the first person on our present list, was born in Preston on the 9th June, 1832. His father was Isaac Simpson, who came from Greta Bridge, some distance north-east of Lancaster. Originally, Isaac Simpson was a watch and clock-maker, a learned and mystical business in the olden times. He did not care much for either Greta Bridge, or the river flowing through it, or the horological business of the locality, and in the lapse of time, after marriage, he took up his abode at Chorley. In 1831 he came to Preston, subsequently got into the gold thread making business, then cast a glimpse at the cotton trade, and associated himself with it; finally he returned directly to the arena of gold thread, and was connected with it up to the period of his death. His son, Mr. Stephen Simpson, received his early education at Blackpool; the tuition of that son was completed by a Quaker, at Tulketh Hall, near Preston, and in 1847, when 15 years of age, he became associated, under his father, with King Cotton. In 1853 he abandoned that said king and entered into immediate communication with the business he has ever since carried on—gold thread making. He has never tried to find out the philosopher's stone, which will, it is said, turn everything into gold; but he has moved on to an auriferous point of excellence, and says he could thread the needle of Cleopatra with his own goods if put to it. And yet he is an essentially humble man; he has been in the midst of millions of yards of gold thread—has seen as much of it as would reach from here to the planet Uranus—but he has never had a single button put on with that identical

thread, and would become passionate if anyone attempted to even mend his choicest pants with it. Mr. Simpson came into our Council as a member of St. John's Ward, in 1864, and he remains one of its representatives. For four and a half years he attended most regularly all the meetings of the Council; during the past 18 months the requirements of his own business have prevented him from either burning the midnight oil on its behalf or sacrificing mid-day sunshine for its particular benefit. There are, he feels, so many wise men in connection with it, that his periodical absence will not be felt. Eventually, he purposes retiring altogether into the gold thread business, and, finally, he may resolve himself into a nugget. Mr. Simpson is a small, neatly-fashioned, quick, smart-tempered, good-hearted man; is full of chat, mirth, and market quotations; is light-complexioned, brisk featured; has dark, swiftly stirring eyes; is polished in figure, and looks like an anglicised Frenchman; is generous all over, from boots to hat; is impulsive, tries to get out ten times more words than he can utter, when in a fume; runs over with the most aromatic rose water when easy; is unobtrusive, humorous, quiet; believes that man was made to smile as well as to mourn; is astute, hates straight-lacedness; has never read Baxter's 'Saints' Rest'; is quick, kindly, open-hearted; says nothing in the Town Council, and says it well; is determined, generous, industrious; can be very easily pacified, and speedily roused; has been married eleven years; is the father of six children; in politics is a Liberal; in religion a Churchman; thinks that the golden age has yet to come, and that when it gets half a mile off it may as well be pulled in by a gold thread as by a common rope; is not connected with 'King Simpson'; likes good slippers, clean churchwarden pipes, and believes in being happy."

This is certainly a very accurate portraiture of my father, but he could hardly be termed light-complexioned; he had dark, almost black, hair as a young man, and was rather sallow.

On the death of his mother in 1871, he bought East Cliff House from his father's trustees, and went to reside there. He was intensely interested in the business of gold thread and lace manufacturing and embroidery established by his father, and was the inventor of a machine for drawing fine wire, which was patented in 1869. For a short time previous to his father's death he had been a partner in the Preston business, under the style of "Isaac Simpson & Son," and in 1866 he altered the name to "Stephen Simpson." In 1874, he bought the London business of Johnson, Simpson & Simons, and took into partnership Christopher Rook, a clerk with the old firm, under the style of "Simpson & Rook." An account of the firm appeared in the *Preston Chronicle* 20th September, 1884. He became a Freemason in 1866, and was a member of the Lodge of Peace and Unity, Preston, No. 314. In 1881, Stephen Simpson was made a magistrate for the county borough of Preston. He died 16th November, 1891, at the family residence, and was buried in the


IN MEMORY OF
STEPHEN SIMPSON
OF EAST CLIFF HOUSE PRESTON
FOURTH SON OF
ISAAC AND MARY SIMPSON OF THE SAME PLACE
BORN 9TH JUNE 1832. DIED 16TH NOVR 1891.
BURIED IN THE FAMILY VAULT
AT THE PRESTON CEMETERY.
ALSO OF HIS GRANDFATHER STEPHEN SIMPSON,
(THE FIRST REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FAMILY IN PRESTON)
SON OF WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH SIMPSON OF
GRETA BRIDGE, LANCASHIRE. DIED 23RD NOVR 1821.
BURIED IN THE GRAVEYARD OF THIS CHURCH.
ERECTED BY THE WIDOW AND CHILDREN
OF THE FIRST NAMED STEPHEN SIMPSON.

MEMORIAL TABLET

in Parish Church, Preston.

family vault at the Preston cemetery. There is a memorial tablet erected to his memory in the parish church, Preston.

By his will, dated 6th July, 1888, he left East Cliff House to his wife for life, and his business to his executors, to be carried on by them until his youngest daughter came of age, and afterwards to his two sons. The will was proved at Lancaster, 23rd February, 1892, by the executors, who were his brother-in-law, George Frederick Hinshelwood; Henry Eli Sowerbutts of Preston, cotton manufacturer; and Sir William Ascroft of Preston.

He left nine children—two sons (Isaac and myself) and seven daughters. The elder son, my brother, Isaac, was born at Preston, 4th January, 1860, and was educated at the Preston Grammar School and at Rossall School. He married, 10th November, 1885, at the parish church, Blackburn, Emily Edleston, third daughter and co-heiress of James Edleston Beardsworth of Blackburn, by his wife, Catherine, daughter of Richard Crankshaw of Preston, and resided for many years at Brook House, near Garstang, which he purchased shortly before his death. The Revd. John Wesley, M.A., used to visit Brook House, and hold preaching services in the large dining room (now the drawing room), his host, Mr. James Edmondson, who was then in residence there, being his personal friend. One of Wesley's visits, on Sunday, 8th April, 1770, has been specially recorded in his diary. Isaac Simpson was a gold thread manufacturer, and a member of the old firm, but retired from the partnership at the end of the year 1900. He was made a magistrate for the county of Lancaster on 28th August, 1912, and died on 7th September, 1919.

He had two sons: Stephen Simpson of Low Abbey, near Lancaster, who, in 1914, married Norah Katherine, youngest daughter of William Alfred Winstanley, Esq., J.P., co. Lancs.; and Charles Vernon Martin Simpson, captain, 1st/5th Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, who was killed at Wieltje, Belgium, 31st July, 1917, during the late war; and one daughter, Catherine Emily, who is unmarried.

My nephew, Stephen, the elder son, born 23rd February, 1887, was educated at Felsted School, Essex, and at the Preston Grammar School. He is my godson. At the age of 17 he entered the gold thread business established by his great-grandfather, Isaac Simpson, and is now the manager of the works in Preston. In addition to the charge of a large business, he has found time to devote himself to philanthropic pursuits, and has started a project for the brightening of village life in the township of Ellel, near Lancaster, where he resides. His house, Low Abbey, which at one time certainly had associations with the wealthy Cockersand Abbey, is picturesquely situated about a quarter of a mile from Bay Horse Station. In later years it had been used as a tannery. A fairly large outbuilding has been fitted up as a spinning-house, with spinning-wheels, hand looms, and all the necessary equipment for the production of domestic woollen fabrics, all the processes

being gone through from the fleece to the finished goods. The association is called "The Guild of St. Margaret of Scotland." Margaret was not only a pious queen, but she did much to help on the civilization of Scotland in rude times, and was particularly successful in promoting useful and decorative handicrafts. She was canonized in 1250. The Guild at Low Abbey is dedicated to St. Margaret, and its badge—very beautifully designed by Mrs. Garnett of Wyreside, near Lancaster—is a St. Andrew's cross; on this is imposed a spinning-wheel, the spokes of which radiate from a centrepiece bearing a conventional representation of the thistle. The master of the Guild is Stephen Simpson, to whom came the idea of establishing the association after reading the works of John Ruskin and William Morris. One particular passage in Morris's writings may be quoted as embodying the gospel of the movement: "It is right and necessary that all men should have work to do—first, work worth doing; second, work that is pleasant to do; and third, work done under some conditions as will make it neither wearisome nor over-anxious"; and, elsewhere, "Art is man's expression of his joy in labour." Stephen Simpson began at first with flax spinning, but when flax became difficult to obtain on the outbreak of the war, he experimented with wool. He became acquainted with Mr. Albert Fleming of the Langdale Flax Spinning Industry (a close personal friend of Ruskin's), Miss Garnett of the Spinnery, Windermere, and others, who gave him valuable advice. Studying and working hard himself, he was eventually in the position of being able to teach, and classes were formed to learn the spinning. All the other processes followed in due course. The fleece, which, by-the-bye, had risen from 4½d. to 3s. 6d. per lb., is washed and dyed by natural methods. In the dyeing processes, only vegetable dyes are used. The wool is teased and then carded into rolags and spun into a single thread. There is provision for making two-ply, three-ply, or even four-ply yarn for knitting purposes. There are three hand looms which turn out fine lengths of woven woollen cloth of the very highest quality. The finished goods include stockings, mufflers, gloves, caps, jerseys, etc. At the beginning, members made things for their own use, but the Guild is now able to sell a limited amount of work and to accept orders. It is laid down, as we have seen, that if work is to be done well, and if it is to be beautiful, the worker must have joy in his or her labour. It surely must be a source of pride to any young woman to know that some woollen garment that she or her friends may be wearing is her own handiwork, that she has been intimately and personally concerned in all the process of its production from the raw wool to the finished article. She feels joy in her labour, and that is an important incentive to good work. During the long winter evenings it is very desirable that as many pleasurable occupations as possible should be provided in the rural districts. The dullness from which rural life has been suffering for a long while in the past must

Brook House, near Garstang.

Where Wesley preached on 8th April, 1770.

be removed, in the interests not only of the village, but the nation. It is worthy of note that the St. Margaret's Guild has its social side, one pleasing feature being the holding of folk song and dance classes each week.

Of the seven daughters of Stephen Simpson of East Cliff House, Helen Isabella, the second daughter, died, unmarried, 9th July, 1910; Mary Hargraves, the third daughter, married her third cousin, William Hargreaves, late head master of Kuala Kangsar College, Perak, Federated Malay States, of H.M. Colonial Service (retired), and has one son, Anthony Newill Hargreaves, lieutenant, 2nd battalion, The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster), who came safely through the Great War, and is now serving with his battalion in Burma. In an article on the prosperity of British Malaya, in the *Financial News* of 1st June, 1922, it is stated: "The Kuala Kangsar College is in the state of Perak, and its establishment resulted in the successful development of a notable experiment. One of the aims of the college was to give Malay youths belonging to the higher social strata an education modelled upon that given in the great English and Scotch public schools, and designed to fit them for such posts in the public service as assistant district officer, assistant magistrate, or land officer. The administration was fortunate in securing as the first head master of the college an enthusiastic educationist in the person of Mr. W. Hargreaves. This gentleman had had long local experience as the head master of the Penang Free School, and his devoted labours at Kuala Kangsar during over ten years set the seal of success upon an enterprise which was at first regarded by many with some misgivings."

The other daughters, viz.: Florence Jane (the eldest), Gertrude Elizabeth, Caroline Yates, Beatrice Octavia, and Bertha Nona, are unmarried. Gertrude Elizabeth and the last two named now live in Cairo. My mother, as the tenant for life under my father's will, and with the concurrence of the trustees, sold the old family house—East Cliff House—for the vicarage of Preston, in June, 1909, and removed to Wimbledon, Surrey. She died there, 9th April, 1914, in the 81st year of her age, and was buried in the family vault at the Preston cemetery.

A pedigree of the Simpsons of East Cliff House, Preston, was registered at the Heralds' College, London, in 1915.

CHAPTER VII.

My Autobiography.

I AM the younger son of Stephen Simpson of East Cliff House, Preston, Esquire. I was born on Friday, 17th September, 1863, the noted port vintage year, at No. 5, Camden Place, Winckley Square, Preston, where my parents then resided. My baptism took place on the 16th October, 1863, at the parish church, Preston, by the Revd. Thos. Johnson, who was then one of the curates under Canon John Owen Parr, M.A., vicar, and I was confirmed at the same church on 10th August, 1878, by the Right Revd. James Fraser, D.D., Lord Bishop of Manchester. When just over four years of age, I was sent daily to a small dame's school in Jordan Street, Preston, kept by a Miss Harriet Oakley, and stayed under her guidance until the end of the year 1874. I completed my education at the Preston Grammar School during the headmastership of the Revd. A. B. Beaven, M.A. On 21st January, 1882, I matriculated at St. John's College, Oxford, graduated B.A. in the Honour School of Law in 1885, and took the degree of M.A. in 1888.

Whilst in Oxford I took a great interest in rowing, and as I was a very light weight, viz., under eight stones, when I went into residence, I was quickly chosen to cox the college boat, which I did in 1882-1883. Among my contemporaries at the college were the Revd. William Seymour Edgell, M.A., late Vicar of Totteridge, Herts., and Anthony Edward Harrison (see the Pedigree Register II. 339, III. 1, published by George Sherwood) of Wimbledon, Surrey, barrister-at-law, both of whom are still two of my most valued friends. The latter is a distant cousin of my late wife, and to him I am indebted for my introduction to her. The former, with another college friend, the Revd. H. Wesley Dennis, D.D., late Principal of St. John's Training College, Battersea, now Rector of Cheam, Surrey, officiated at our wedding.

On leaving Oxford I was articled to William Ascroft, of the firm of W. A. & R. Ascroft, solicitors, Preston, and was admitted a solicitor and enrolled on 4th December, 1888. After practising as conveyancing clerk to Mr. Wellington Taylor, Solicitor, 59, Lincoln's Inn Fields, for

about two years, I gave up the law, and on my father's death, in 1891, entered the well-known concern of gold and silver thread plate and lace manufacturing and embroidery, then carried on by my father's trustees. Later, in 1898, I entered into partnership with my brother, Isaac, and William Chadderton, my father's manager, and we together took over the business from the trustees and carried it on under the old style of "Stephen Simpson." I am now the sole proprietor of the business, which, by skilful management and various developments, has become an industry with world-wide reputation.

I was admitted to the Freedom of the City of London on the 14th of April, 1920, as a liveryman of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company, and, on the 9th January, 1922, was elected a member of the Court of Assistants of the same company.

For over twenty-nine years I was an active Volunteer and Territorial Officer. I was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the 5th Lancashire Volunteer Artillery on 10th September, 1892, promoted 1st Lieutenant, 4th November the following year, and Captain, 24th May, 1899. When I joined, we were armed with 40-pr. rifled B.L. guns, and the corps consisted of five batteries of four guns each—two batteries at Preston, two at Lancaster, and one at Blackpool. These guns were later replaced by twenty 4·7 guns, which were used for the first time at the annual training at Knott End, near Fleetwood, on 30th May, 1903, and our name was then changed to the 5th Lancashire Royal Garrison Artillery (Volunteers).

On the initiation of the Territorial Force in 1908, we were turned into field artillery, and became the 2nd West Lancashire Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. The Brigade, then commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Trimble, C.M.G., V.D., consisted of three four-gun batteries and an ammunition column, *i.e.*, the 9th Lancashire Battery at Preston, the 10th at Lancaster, the 11th at Blackpool, and the column divided between the three stations, but eventually stationed at Preston. We had the 15-pr. guns, which did such useful work in South Africa, converted for the use of the Territorial Force. I was given command of the 9th Lancashire Battery and promoted Major on the 1st April, 1908. On 17th October, 1911, new headquarters for the brigade were opened in Preston by Lord Derby, and to pay for the cost of removal, and for furnishing, I was fortunate enough in being able to collect over £500 from private sources.

I was granted the Territorial Decoration on 11th April, 1913, after twenty years' commissioned service.

When the Great War broke out, I was with the brigade at our annual training at Buddon Camp, N.B., but we returned to Preston immediately to mobilize. The mobilization was completed by the 13th August, 1914, and we moved to Edinburgh on that day to form part of the coast defences.

Here we remained nearly three months, first under canvas in the King's Park, Holyrood Palace, and afterwards at Redford Barracks, Collinton, near Edinburgh, which had just been built for the Scots Greys. On 21st October we moved to Westerham, co. Kent; while there, at the request of the O.C. Brigade, I gave up command of my battery, and on the 24th November returned to Preston to recruit a reserve brigade and D.A.C., and to act as O.C. Depôt.

Between November, 1914, and May, 1915, I personally recruited over 1,000 men and formed the reserve brigade named the 2/2nd West Lancashire Brigade, R.F.A. On 7th June, 1915, I was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel to command this brigade. We went under canvas at Weeton, near Blackpool, the following day. At first we had no equipment and only ten horses, so training was a very difficult matter. On 17th September, 1915, my birthday, we entrained for Kennington Camp, near Ashford, Kent, where the first line brigade, with Lieutenant-Colonel (afterwards Brigadier-General) T. E. Topping, D.S.O., in command, had been under canvas, and we took over their old guns and equipment, tents, etc., prior to their departure overseas. We were soon kept busy with officers' courses at Shoeburyness, inspections by Major-General J. M. S. Brunker, practice at Salisbury Plain, etc., and from the 10th to the 16th April, 1916, I was with the B.E.F., France, attached to the 46th Brigade, R.F.A., of the 14th Division. During my visit I was present alone in the infantry trenches with Lieutenant-Colonel H. N. Packard, R.F.A., D.S.O., when he was killed at my feet, at Agny, near Arras.

The second line brigade became the 286th Brigade, R.F.A., on 16th May, 1916. After having been in billets in Kennington and the neighbouring villages—Great Chart, Charing, and Boughton Lees—for the winter of 1915-1916, we moved to camp at Bridge, near Canterbury, but only remained there seventeen days. On 27th June, 1916, we entrained for Salisbury Plain for practice, and on its conclusion went to Deepcut Barracks, near Aldershot, to prepare for service abroad as part of the artillery of the 57th Division. I took the brigade out to France on 8th February, 1917, but, after a month's service in the line in front of Fleurbaix and Armentieres, it was considered that, as I was then over 53 years of age, I was too old for service in the field. I returned home on 2nd April the same year, full of rheumatism, but anxious still to serve in any capacity. I was then given command of the 321st Brigade, R.F.A., at Westwick, Norfolk, where I remained for the summer. At my own request, on account of urgent private affairs, I transferred to the Reserve on 16th September, 1917.

When steps were taken to re-form the Territorial Army after the Great War, as it seemed the unanimous wish of my old officers, I returned to the active list on 14th June, 1920, to recruit and command the old brigade, renamed the 88th (West Lancashire) Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. Recruiting

was brisk, and the brigade was re-formed before the end of the year. It now consists of headquarters, three 18-pr. and one 4·5 (How.) batteries, names and stationed as follows: Headquarters, 349th and 352nd (How.) Batteries at Preston, 350th Battery at Lancaster, and 351st Battery at Blackpool. The first annual training took place at Knott End, from 31st July to 14th August, 1921, when twenty officers (including a medical and veterinary officer) and 400 men attended. The brigade was inspected by the G.O.C. in "C" Western Command, Chester, Lieutenant-General Sir Beauvoir De Lisle, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., and the G.O.C. 55th (the West Lancashire) Division (T.A.), Major-General Sir C. L. Nicholson, K.C.B., C.M.G. They both made most flattering remarks about the shooting, and gave us an excellent report. My promotion to the rank of Brevet-Colonel appeared in the *Gazette* of the 21st March, 1922, and on the 31st May the same year I handed over the brigade to my successor, Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) Sydney Smith, D.S.O., M.C., T.D., and was transferred to the retired list, with permission to retain my rank and wear the prescribed uniform.

The C.R.A., Colonel C. E. C. Graham Charlton, C.M.G., D.S.O., sent me the following official letter on my retirement:—

"From C.R.A., 55th (West Lancs.) Division.

"To Officer Commanding 88th (West Lancs.) Bde., R.F.A.

"*Colonel S. Simpson, T.D. For information.*

"The C.R.A. wishes to place on record his appreciation of the good work performed by Col. S. Simpson, T.D., during the period of his command of the 88th (West Lancs.) Bde., R.F.A. The fact that the re-forming of the Brigade after the War was in Colonel Simpson's hands and that on handing over it is up to strength in officers and men and well established speaks for itself.

"It is due to Colonel Simpson's keenness, energy, power of organization and personal influence that this satisfactory result has been arrived at.

"The C.R.A. wishes to thank Colonel Simpson for his good work and loyal support and to wish him every success in the future.

"Signed: C. E. C. Graham Charlton,
"Colonel.
"C.R.A. 55th (West Lancs.) Division.

"R.A. Head Quarters,
"West Lancashire Division,
"Larkhill,
"15.6.22.
"No. 2204/17."

I also received an appreciative letter from the G.O.C. 55th (West Lancs.) Division, Major-General Sir C. L. Nicholson, K.C.B., C.M.G.

I was a military member of the West Lancashire T.A. Association, and in recognition of my services in the R.F.A. brigade which I commanded, and to the association, I was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the County Palatine of Lancaster on 16th May, 1921.

During my long service I have had the honour of being presented to my Sovereign on three occasions, the first time to H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales (representing H.M. Queen Victoria) at a levee at St. James's Palace on 24th April, 1893, by my friend, Captain the Hon. Spencer Hylton Jolliffe; the second time to H.M. King Edward VII. on the 5th July, 1909, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, at Knowsley Park, after the review of the West Lancashire Division, when I commanded as Major the 9th Lancashire Battery of the 2nd West Lancashire Brigade, R.F.A.; and the third time on 23rd September, 1916, to H.M. King George V., on Laffans Plain, Aldershot, before taking out the 286th Brigade, R.F.A., to France, when I was presented by Brigadier-General Cecil Wray, C.M.G., C.R.A., 57th Division, as the raiser and trainer of the brigade.

In addition to my interest in military affairs, I have devoted some of my time to Freemasonry, and became a Freemason in 1898. I was the Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Peace and Unity, Preston, No. 314, in 1911, the same lodge in which my father, Stephen Simpson, was a member, and the lodge of which my great-grandfather, Stephen Simpson, was Worshipful Master in 1806. It is probably a unique record in the annals of a lodge of Freemasonry for three members of the same family, all of the same name, to have belonged to the same lodge. I am also a Royal Arch Mason and Companion of the Royal Architect Chapter, No. 314, Preston, of which I am now a P.Z. On 18th May, 1918, I was appointed Provincial Grand Registrar of Provincial Grand Chapter, and on 16th June, 1920, Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon of Provincial Grand Lodge of the Western Division of the County of Lancaster.

I married, 10th April, 1902, at Christ Church, Southport, Nathalie, only daughter of the late James Hesketh of Astley Bridge, Bolton-le-Moors, by Nathalie Mary, his wife, daughter of Dr. William Irving,* F.R.C.S. of Penrith, Cumberland. The issue of our marriage is one son, Stephen Hesketh, born 18th February, 1903, and three daughters, viz.: Nathalie Mary, Melene Irving, and Christine Valerie. My son was educated at Mostyn House Preparatory School, Parkgate, Cheshire, and at Trent College, Derbyshire. He is now an apprentice to me as a Gold and Silver Wyre Drawer of London, the

* A pedigree of this branch of the Irving family is recorded in *The Book of the Irvings, an old Scots Border Clan,* by the Chieftain, Lt.-Col. J. B. Irving, published by the Rosemount Press, Aberdeen, 1907.

NATHALIE,

Wife of Brevet-Colonel Stephen Simpson.
Born 6th November, 1873.
Died 9th August, 1921.

Indenture of Apprenticeship being dated 18th June, 1920, and has a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in my old brigade, dated 18th February, 1921.

During the first three years after our marriage we lived at 12, Langford Place, St. John's Wood, London, where our son and eldest daughter were born. We moved to Parkside, Garstang Road, Preston, in 1905, where our second daughter was born, and to 51, Cambridge Road, Southport, in 1910, where our youngest daughter was born. I now live at Bowerswood near Garstang, co. Lancaster, and we came into residence here in June, 1919. My wife died 9th August, 1921, and was buried at St. Thomas's, Garstang.

CHAPTER VIII.

My American Cousins.

AS so many of the family are now living in the United States of America and have become American citizens, I propose to devote a separate chapter to them.

The first of the family to emigrate was James Simpson, the eldest son of James Simpson of Manchester, and afterwards of Chesterfield, by his second wife, Catherine Pendlebury of Tyldesley, and grandson of Thomas Simpson of Preston (mentioned in Chapter V.). He was born 9th June, 1841, and married, 26th April, 1862, Abigail, daughter of John Hill of Manchester. On his arrival, in 1869, he settled at Mc Keesport, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; his wife and family joined him there the following year. He was led to Mc Keesport through his acquaintance with an official of the Mc Keesport Locomotive Works, and the reports that business prospects were good along his line. For many years he worked for the Mc Keesport National Tube Works. Mc Keesport, a flourishing manufacturing borough of Pennsylvania, is situated on the east bank of the Monongahela river, at the mouth of the Youghiogheny, fifteen miles south-east of Pittsburg. It is the centre of a great coal-mining district, and, during the decade 1880-1890, increased its population from 8,212 to 20,741. The last census gives the population as 51,500. The National Tube Works cover a very large space. Of the large family of ten children of James Simpson, one son and one daughter died in infancy; two daughters, Pauline and Annie, died unmarried; one son, Charles, met with an accident and died, unmarried, in 1902, at the age of 21 years; three sons—James Alfred, Thomas, and Henry Isaac—and two daughters—Florence and Diana Elizabeth Abigail—are now living.

James Alfred married Martha B. Brown of New York. He is a mechanical engineer, and has brought out several patents, notably a movable table for use in seaming pipes. He is an authority in the manufacture of pipe and boiler tubes, and has a degree from the U.S. Government for heat treatment and furnace designing. He now lives at 230, West 101st Street, Broadway Apartments, New York City.

1. **JAMES SIMPSON** of Manchester.
2. **JAMES SIMPSON** of Mc Keesport, Pa., U.S.A.
3. **STEPHEN SIMPSON** of Mc Keesport, Pa., U.S.A.
4. **JANE,** wife of John Turner Bond of Kingston, N.Y., U.S.A.

Thomas is working for the National Tube Co., Mc Keesport, and is unmarried.

Henry Isaac is a mechanical engineer at Richmond, Virginia. He married Gertrude Stewart of Mc Keesport, and has a daughter, Helen Abigail.

Florence, daughter of James Simpson, married George W. Dales of Duquesne. Diana Elizabeth Abigail is unmarried, and now lives at 409, 13th Street, Mc Keesport.

James Simpson was interested in civic affairs, and served on the Mc Keesport Board of Aldermen for several years. He died 24th December, 1906, his wife 15th March, 1911, and both are buried at Versailles cemetery, Mc Keesport.

Stephen Simpson, another son of James Simpson of Manchester and Chesterfield, emigrated in October, 1889, with his wife and family, in search of better business prospects than in the old country. He was born 21st February, 1851, and after leaving school went to Mansfield (to the gas meter works of his father's cousin, Stephen Simpson), where he married his second cousin, Annie Wilkinson Simpson, daughter of Stephen Simpson of Mansfield, and granddaughter of William Simpson of Bingley (mentioned in Chapter V.). He is now in the mechanical business with the National Tube Co., Mc Keesport. His children are as follows: Thomas, who is also with the National Tube Co., and is unmarried; Isaac, married Nellie, daughter of William and Margaret Tully of Mc Keesport, and has four sons—Stanley Stephen, Earl, Edwin, and Homer—he is a mechanical engineer in the experimental department of the Westinghouse Air Brake Co. of Pittsburg; Edmund, who died in 1907, was engaged in the mechanical business with the Westinghouse Air Brake Co., at their works in Wilmerding, Pennsylvania—he married Alice, daughter of William and Rachel Tomlinson of Mc Keesport, and has left two children, Ethel Edna and Edmund; and Allan James, a civil engineer with the National Tube Co. of Mc Keesport. He married Regina, daughter of George and Elizabeth Haben of Mc Keesport, and has one son, Allan James, born 13th March, 1920.

Other emigrants were Jane, the daughter of Thomas Simpson of Preston; her husband, John Turner Bond; and their family of five children—three sons and two daughters. John Turner Bond was the son of John Bond of Lancaster, a soldier, who enlisted and became a colour-sergeant in the 29th Regiment of Infantry. He was born somewhere in Ireland on 19th February, 1824, but the place is not known. For a time he carried on business as a watchmaker in Preston, where his marriage to Jane, the daughter of Thomas Simpson, took place, 25th March, 1846, at the Lune Street Wesleyan Chapel. Afterwards he lived in Manchester and then in Leeds. He emigrated in March, 1866, and, after landing in New York, saw an advertisement, "Wanted a watchmaker, John Vignes, Kingston." He applied, was accepted, and

worked there until he began business for himself. His second son, John Turner Bond, followed him to the States in December, 1867; his wife, his youngest son, Stephen James Bond, and his two daughters, Eliza and Agnes, in October, 1870; and his eldest son, Thomas Simpson Bond, in July, 1871. He died at Kingston, 13th July, 1899, his wife having predeceased him the year before. They are both buried at the Wiltwyck cemetery, Kingston. Kingston is quite an historical place, and it was here the first New York Senate was held. The town was set on fire by the British in 1777, and only one house was saved. This is still standing.

The eldest son, the Revd. Thomas Simpson Bond, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, New York, was born 28th December, 1848, at Preston, and is unmarried. He joined the New York Methodist Episcopal Conference in April, 1872, and was stationed at Esopus, Ridgebury, Shokan, Lenox, Boscobel, Hartsdale, Fordham, Carmel, Canaan, and Millerton. For the last twenty-one years he has been stationed in the City of New York, at the present time being the Financial Agent of the Five Points Mission. The reverend gentleman had the honour of preaching the Annual Conference Sermon before the New York Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the Park Avenue Church, New York City, on Thursday, 25th March, 1915, and took for his subject "The Humanity, Royalty, Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ." His texts were: "Behold the Man," John xix. 5; "Behold your King," John xix. 14; "Behold your God," Isaiah xl. 9; and "This is the true God," 1 John v. 20. The sermon has been printed, and the following is an extract from Conference Resolutions: "We gladly make grateful mention of the Conference Sermon by our brother, Thomas S. Bond. In exalting Jesus Christ, he exalted our conception of the greatness of the Gospel we are called to preach. He has truly been a sturdy helper of our Faith."

John Turner Bond, the second son, was born 22nd October, 1850, at Blackpool. Soon after his arrival in the States, he was employed as a watchmaker in Kingston, then in Maiden Lane, New York, afterwards at Downsville. In April, 1872, he started for himself as a watchmaker and jeweller at 12, East Strand, Kingston, and for forty-two years carried on business in the same store. He lived at 122, Franklin Street, with his sister, Agnes, and died there, unmarried, 22nd March, 1918.

Stephen James Bond, the youngest son, was born 24th October, 1855, at Manchester. He settled at Stone Ridge, town of Marbletown, Ulster County, N.Y., where he carried on business for a time as a watchmaker, and later became an automobile machinist. Stone Ridge is a very pretty village, about twelve miles from Kingston, and a noted summer resort. Some years ago, Francis H. Leggett, the millionaire grocer, built an inn and a number of cottages, which he let furnished to New Yorkers, and there used to be quite a New York colony there every summer. Stephen James Bond married, on

Irwin Lockwood Bond and John Turner Bond,

Sons of Stephen James Bond of Stone Ridge, town of Marbletown, Ulster Co., New York, U.S.A.

19th February, 1879, Minnie Lockwood of Stone Ridge, and had eight children—five sons and three daughters. The eldest son, Cyrene, is in a broker's office in New York, and lives at Bogota, New Jersey; he married Lucie Edith Strike, who died 6th September, 1922, and has two sons, Cyrene Stephen and Robert. Two of the sons, viz., Irwin Lockwood and John Turner, served in Uncle Sam's Army during the Great War; the former became a sergeant, and died, while serving, of pneumonia, 10th October, 1918. Of the remaining children of Stephen James Bond, the youngest son, Percy Clark, and one daughter, Lena, are living, the others are dead. His wife died in 1911.

The two daughters of John Turner and Jane Bond are Eliza, who married Cyrene Boice of the Boice Hardwood Company, Inc., manufacturers of Western North Carolina Hardwoods, Hartford, Tennessee; and Agnes, who lives at 122, Franklin Street, Kingston, N.Y., and is unmarried.

Cyrene Boice was reared in Ulster County, New York, but was living in Chattanooga, Tennessee, when he and his wife were married. Four years later they went to Abingdon, Virginia, where they lived until 1906, since which time they have lived in Richmond, Virginia.

The Boice Hardwood Co., consisting of Mr. W. Bell and Cyrene Boice, owns about 25,000 acres of timber land, partly in Tennessee, but mostly in the high mountains of Western North Carolina. There are also large deposits of iron ore as yet undeveloped, but which they may open up later should business conditions justify it. The Company's property consists, in addition to the land itself, of about forty miles of railroad, part broad gauge and part narrow gauge; two standard locomotives and two narrow gauge locomotives, with the necessary rolling stock for freight, logs, and lumber; two stores, which handle everything from pins and needles to ploughs and furniture; and the mill proper, cutting from 40,000 to 50,000 feet of lumber a day. At present, owing to a lack of demand and the great dullness in the building trades, there are over 12,000,000 feet of lumber stocked on the yard. The mountains around are beautiful, this being the country—with Ashville, N.C., as a centre—known as "The Land of the Sky." One of the mountains on the Company's property is over 5,500 feet in height, and affords a wonderful view of the surrounding country, with mountain range after range in every direction as far as the eye can reach. There are other attractions, too, this territory being the worst in the mountains for "moonshine" whiskey. Cyrene Boice is always working to prevent the demoralization of the workmen by the "blockade runners," who operate the illicit mountain stills. Lately he was at court prosecuting a man who shot and killed one of his locomotive engineers. He is a remarkably efficient man in many ways, who knows every detail of the whole business from the tree to the finished product. This property had always been pronounced impossible of development because

of its inaccessibility, but he dug out a railroad bed high up along the rocky cliffs of what was said to be an impassable gorge.

The issue of the marriage was four children—two sons and two daughters. The elder son, Edmund Simpson Boice, is a Doctor of Surgery. He has now charge, in partnership with Dr. B. C. Willis, of the Park View Hospital, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, which has the reputation of being one of the best in the State. It was built by a group of seven doctors. Recently, Drs. Willis and Boice have bought all the stock, except a few shares, which means that practically the whole property, along with 10,000 dollars' worth of radium and X-ray equipment, belongs to them. Dr. Boice is a member of the American College of Surgeons, and was appointed one of the two delegates from North Carolina to the Annual Conference of the American Medical Association, at New Orleans, for 1920. The younger son, John Francis, died in infancy. The elder daughter, Jennie May, has gone into business for herself, and conducts one of the best-known and most successful photographic studios in the State. The younger daughter, Marian Irene, keeps house for her mother, who is an invalid, and occupies herself with various activities in church and charitable organizations.

Miss Agnes Bond has compiled a most interesting record of her family on both sides, and I must here most gratefully acknowledge the help she and her brother, the Revd. Thomas Simpson Bond, have rendered me in writing this chapter.

In addition to the foregoing, as stated in Chapter V., William Edmund Simpson, younger son of Edmund Simpson of Mansfield, emigrated to Cleveland, Ohio, with his wife and daughter, a few years ago. When last heard of he was in Detroit, in charge of some engineering works there. He was born 26th December, 1871, at Mansfield. His wife, Eleanor Clare, is a daughter of Charles Piper of Birmingham, and the marriage took place on 15th April, 1900, at Perry Bar, co. Stafford. They now have three daughters.

It has been recorded in Chapter III. that Wortley Simpson, younger son of Jonathan Wortley Simpson of Preston, emigrated to the States. Except that he married Emma Roberts of Trinity Miles, Texas, who died 5th July, 1883, I have no information about him, nor do I know if he had issue.

CHAPTER IX.

On Heraldry.

HERALDRY is a peculiar science inseparably associated with the history of our country. It teaches the art of blazoning and explains in heraldic terms everything pertaining to coat armour. It also shows the method of marshalling or placing with the most exact regularity divers arms upon the shield or escutcheon.

Our early ancestors, little given to study of any kind, considered a knowledge of heraldry indispensable. Probably heraldry was introduced into England from Germany through France in the second half of the twelfth century. It was invented because it was needed for practical use in connection with military equipments, knightly exercises, and the melée of actual battles.

Its ensigns, made up of certain colours and symbols, were embroidered upon the garment that partially covered the armour and were borne on the shield, banner, and pennon, flying from the shaft of the lance. They were also used on the seals, early required to give validity to every species of legal documents.

At first no doubt armorial bearings were assumed at will for use in the field of battle; afterwards they became hereditary marks of honour, as proof of gentility. They were granted to particular families by Sovereign princes as a reward for military service or some other signal public service, and serve to denote the descent and alliance of the bearer. In 1417 King Henry V., by proclamation, forbade their assumption unless by right of inheritance, or by grant from the Garter King of Arms, an office instituted by him shortly before that date. Later, the College of Heralds was established —the letters patent issued for this purpose by Richard III. bear date the 2nd March, 1483, the first year of his reign—and, in 1528, King Henry VIII. commissioned some of the officers of arms to make visitations of certain counties in England for the purpose of preparing an official record of the armorial bearings and pedigrees of all persons entitled to bear arms.

These visitations were in due course periodically made at intervals for every county of England; they were suspended during the Commonwealth period, but were revived in the reign of Charles II. and continued until the year 1686.

Yorkshire was visited by the Heralds in the years 1530, 1552, 1558, 1563-4, 1584-5, 1612, and 1665-6. At the visitation in 1665-6 by Sir William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms, the following arms were allowed to the Yorkshire Simpsons:—

1.—SIMPSON OF LEEDES.

Arms: "per bend or and sable a lion rampant counterchanged."

2.—SIMPSON OF WETHERBY.

"Respit given for exhibiting the armes, but nothing done."

3.—SYMPSON OF RYTON.

Arms: "per bend nebulee or and sable a lion rampant counterchanged."

Crest: "Out of a mural coronet argent a demi lion rampant guardant per pale wavy or and sable holding in the paws a sword erect hilted of the second."

He produced these arms depicted on a tablet: "Qu for better proofe?"

4.—SYMPSON OF SHEFFEILD,

Arms: "per bend sinister or and sable a lion rampant counterchanged."

To establish the right to bear arms, it is necessary to prove legitimate male descent from some person to whom arms were confirmed at the visitations of the Heralds, or to whom new arms have been granted.

It has been noticed that there is at Meresyke, the first known home of the Simpsons of Gisburne forest, a stone with a lion rampant and the date 1720 carved thereon. This would lead one to suppose that the family at that time claimed the right to bear arms. Moreover, in 1725, when Stephen Simpson of Hengill sold his farm, he was described as "Gentleman" in the deed. By the law of arms "gentlemen," strictly speaking, were those persons only who could show a right to armorial bearings. Possibly Stephen Simpson did claim this right. Every effort, however, has been made to trace the family back to a Visitation family without success, and search at the Heralds' College reveals no grant of arms to the Simpsons at Gisburne forest. As, therefore, it was found impossible to prove that the family was armigerous, I considered that, if a claim is made to gentility of birth, by the display of armorial bearings, it was more honourable to obtain a new grant rather than bear arms, to which no right could be established and to which probably some other family could lay claim. Accordingly I obtained a new grant, and was allowed to continue to bear in my arms the lion rampant of the Yorkshire Simpsons, but with the addition of three Yorkshire roses in chief. A crown vallary (military crown) was substituted for the mural coronet in the crest.

This step was taken for the benefit of future generations. "Nobiles sunt qui arma gentilitia anticessorum suorum proferre possunt."

The following is a copy of the grant:—

"To all and singular to whom these presents shall come, Sir Alfred Scott Scott-Gatty, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order Garter Principal King of Arms and Henry Farnham Burke Esqre. Commander of the Royal Victorian Order of the Bath, Norroy King of Arms of the North parts of England from the river Trent northwards send greeting. *Whereas* Stephen Simpson of Avenham Road, Preston, in the County of Lancaster, Esqre., Master of Arts of the University of Oxford, Major the Royal Field Artillery Territorial Force, who has received the Territorial Decoration, second and younger son of Stephen Simpson, late of East Cliff House, Preston, aforesaid Esqre. in the Commission of the Peace for the Borough of Preston aforesaid hath represented unto the Most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, Knight of the most noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, and one of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, that he is desirous of having Armorial Bearings duly registered to his family, and therefore requested the favour of His Grace's Warrant for our granting and assigning such Armorial ensigns as may be proper to be borne and used by him and his descendants, and by the other descendants of his father, the said Stephen Simpson deceased, according to the Laws of Arms. *And forasmuch* as the said Earl Marshal did by warrant under his hand and seal bearing date the twenty-eighth day of May last authorize and direct Us to grant and assign such Armorial ensigns accordingly. *Know ye therefore* that we the said Garter and Norroy in pursuance of His Grace's warrant and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several offices to each of us respectively granted do by these presents grant and assign unto the said Stephen Simpson the arms following, that is to say, *Per bend sable and or. a lion rampant counterchanged in chief three roses argent barbed and seeded proper*, and for the crest—*Issuant out of a crown vallary argent a demi lion rampant guardant ermines holding in the dexter paw a sword erect argent pommel and hilt or.* as the same are in

the margin hereof more plainly depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by him the said Stephen Simpson and his descendants and by the other descendants of his father the said Stephen Simpson deceased with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms.

"*In witness* whereof we the said Garter and Norroy Kings of Arms have to these presents subscribed our names and affixed the seals of our several offices the eighth day of June in the fifth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Fifth by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King Defender of the Faith etc. and in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fourteen.

(S) "A. S. SCOTT-GATTY, Garter.

(S) "H. FARNHAM BURKE, Norroy."

Endorsement.

"Recorded in the College of Arms.

(S) "CHARLES H. ATHILL,
"Richmond Herald,
"Registrar."

CHAPTER X.

Tracing the Pedigree.

HAVING now written the history of my family, it may be interesting to the readers to describe the means employed in rescuing the particulars I have herein recorded from oblivion.

As a boy I was always interested in genealogies, and started early making notes about my family, and gathering together information from every source available. My father knew little about his family, beyond the name of his grandfather, and the fact that he came to Preston from Greta Bridge at the beginning of the nineteenth century. He told me that there was a family tradition that his christian name, "Stephen," had been in use in the family for over 200 years. He also mentioned that there was living in Preston a watchmaker, Robert Summersgill, who was apprenticed to his grandfather. On 17th December, 1881, I saw Mr. Summersgill, and he gave me some particulars about the Simpson family, which I carefully noted down at the time, as follows:—

"I was apprenticed to your great grandfather, Stephen Simpson of Preston, in the year 1813. He was a native of Gisburne, Yorkshire, and served his time to a clockmaker at Greta Bridge. He married there Elizabeth Porter or Proctor. She died in 1814 in Preston, and I attended her funeral at the Preston Quakers' Meeting House. Stephen Simpson afterwards married Mrs. Mary Gibson. He died at Preston, and was buried at the Preston parish church. His children by his first wife were:

"William, a watchmaker.
"Edmund, a watchmaker.
"Stephen, a watchmaker; afterwards a gas manager.
"Thomas.
"Margaret, married Mr. Allen.
"Mary, married Mr. Sutton, afterwards Mr. Taylor. (She married Joseph Melling for her second husband.)
"Betty, married Mr. Pennington.
"John, killed in 1802. (The date was 4th April, 1801.)
"Isaac, a watchmaker, your grandfather.
"Stephen Simpson's father had a farm at Gisburne, which was sold to Lord Ribblesdale."

I think Mr. Summersgill's statement that Stephen Simpson was apprenticed to a clockmaker at Greta Bridge is incorrect. It is more probable that he learnt his trade at Lancaster, and during his apprenticeship was living with his parents at Beaumont toll-bar house, which is only a mile or so from that town.

On making further enquiries, I discovered that my uncle, Edmund Simpson, had a family Bible in his possession belonging to his grandfather, Stephen Simpson, giving the names and dates of birth of his family. It contained no further information. Afterwards, I came across the marriage certificate, on parchment, of my great-grandfather, Stephen Simpson, shewing him the son of William Simpson of Greta Bridge, to which place his parents had then removed from Beaumont. From the fact of the marriage having taken place at the Lancaster meeting house, I assumed that Stephen Simpson was of Quaker stock, and that the parish registers would not help me, and so, for the time being, I ignored this source of information.

A few years later, Albert Simpson, Esq., J.P., late of Elmhurst, Garstang, now of Burghill Grange, near Hereford, told me that he had heard his father say our families were in some way related. He gave me all the particulars he had of his family, shewing his descent from the Simpsons of Castlebanke, near Kendal, Westmoreland, members of the Society of Friends, since the days of George Fox. Among them was an Isaac Simpson. I traced out a pedigree of this family, but was unable to discover any common ancestor, as I supposed I should. In fact, I failed to make any headway at all, and for some years I gave up the search for more important affairs.

On leaving Oxford I began again to make enquiries, and discovered from the Minutes of the Settle Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends that Stephen Simpson became a Friend in 1779, apparently to enable him to marry a member of that society—and was not born a member. This information opened up at once a new field for search, viz., the parish registers.

In June, 1887, at the time of the first Jubilee of Queen Victoria, during a driving tour through the Craven district of Yorkshire, I came across a Mr. Andrew Simpson of Long Preston, who gave me some particulars of his family. He told me that for years they lived at Stephen Moor, parish of Slaidburn, adjoining Gisburne forest, and that his grandfather was named William; I tried to make out this William as identical with my ancestor, William Simpson, who lived in the district about the same time, but after having obtained all the Simpson entries from the Slaidburn parish registers, I could find no trace of his having had a son named Stephen.

I also soon afterwards make the acquaintance of Mr. R. T. Wildman of Long Preston, to whom I am greatly indebted for his valuable assistance, and for allowing me to inspect the deeds of Stephen Moor, which now belongs to him. His mother, Jane, was a sister of Andrew Simpson of the Slaidburn family.

In the year 1905, Mr. William Hewitson of Bury published in *The Lancaster Observer* extracts from the Diary of John Simpson, an uncle of Andrew Simpson, who went to London as a young man and made a large fortune. John Simpson stated in his Diary that his family sprang from Roundthwaite, near Orton, Westmoreland, and migrated into Bowland.

In an "addenda" article in *The Lancaster Observer* of 16th February, 1906, Mr. Hewitson gave an interesting account of my family, with which I had supplied him, and he also tried to prove that the two Williams mentioned before were identical. I went up to Orton to examine the church registers, and drew up a pedigree of this family from the particulars obtained.

I could not, however, find any connecting link, and did not discover anyone of the name "Stephen" in that family in accordance with our family tradition.

Having thus wandered off into the histories, and drawn up pedigrees of two distinct families of Simpson of Westmoreland, I decided to confine my attention again to Yorkshire. I accordingly now, for the first time, carefully searched the Gisburne registers, and they at once revealed, to my great delight, the marriage of William Simpson and Elizabeth Dewhurst, my great-great-grandparents, and also the fact that the name Stephen had been in use in the Simpson family of Gisburne since the year 1629. I then realised the value of tradition in tracing a pedigree.

Although I knew that at last I was on the right track, it was some years before I was able to piece up all the names from the Gisburne registers in pedigree form.

The York wills helped me considerably, and I must here most gratefully acknowledge the kindness and courtesy shewn me by Mr. A. V. Hudson of the District Probate Registry, York, and thank him for the valuable information with which he supplied me.

My task, however, was far from complete, but, to preserve the information which I had obtained, and with a view to gaining, if possible, some outside assistance in my searches, I arranged with Mr. George Sherwood, the Editor of *The Pedigree Register*, to print the later and early pedigrees of my family in his publication, and they appeared in the issues of December, 1907, and March, 1910, respectively.

Subsequently, Colonel J. W. R. Parker, C.B., D.L., F.S.A. of Browsholme Hall, Yorkshire, who is greatly interested in all Yorkshire families, and to whom I submitted the details I had already obtained of my family, helped me considerably with his advice and suggestions. He examined the pedigrees I had drawn up, and agreed with me that without doubt my ancestor, William Simpson of Moor Close, was one of the sons of Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill, and a descendant of the Simpsons of Gisburne forest. I have many pleasant recollections of my visits to Browsholme Hall,

and of the kindness shewn to me by both Colonel and Mrs. Parker. Colonel Parker is a great genealogist, and has a magnificent reference library, which he very kindly placed at my service.

I also had the further assistance of the late Mr. Harry Speight of Bingley, a noted north country antiquary, and the author of several topographical and genealogical works relating to the county of York. He examined the records of the Manor of Gisburne forest, and also obtained the information from the Wakefield Registry of Deeds, which enabled me to trace the wanderings of William Simpson, my ancestor, after he migrated from Yorkshire. My letters to Mr. Speight, and his replies, all of which are now in my possession, are witnesses of the amount of labour taken by him on my behalf. In addition, I was privileged, through the kindness of Mr. Rowland I. Robinson, formerly agent of Lord Ribblesdale, to inspect the collection of deeds at Gisburne Park, which have been so well arranged and tabulated by Mrs. Tempest of Broughton Hall, county York, and from them the information obtained from the Wakefield Registry was clearly verified and amplified.

In conclusion, I hope this history of an old Yorkshire yeoman family, which has been unravelled after many years of very interesting researches, will prove of some value to the numerous descendants who are now scattered throughout the world. "There is to me an exquisite pleasure in rescuing the memory of past days from the dust scattered over it by time," and I would urge everyone to keep for their children and their children's children a record of what they know of their forbears, what they were, and what they did, else much of what they know will inevitably be lost.

APPENDIX I.

Extracts from Parish Registers.

GISBURNE.

Baptisms.

1567. Johes filius Richi Simson decimo octavo die Augustij.
1590. Richus filius Johis Simson de fforest die sequenti (9th) Decembris.
1597. Jeneta filia Johis Simson quinto die Maij.
1604. Henricus filius Johis Simpson xiiij° die Decembris.
1608. Willimus filius Johis Simson quinto die Marcij.
1614. Willimus filius Johis Simson duodecimo die Maij.
1629. Jeneta filia Richi Simpson vicessimo quinto die Octobris.
1632. Richus filius Stepheni Simpson de Hengill xiij die Novembris.
1634. Willimus filius Richi Simpson de fforest xxiij die Novembris.
1635. Jeneta filia Stephni Simpson de Hengill xxvij die Septembris.
1638. Willimus filius Stephni Simpson de fforest decimo quarto die Maij.
1641. Stephus filius Stephni Simpson de Hengill octavo die Augustij.
1646. Richus filius Johis Simpson de fforest decimo sexto die Julij.
1665. James ye sonne of Thomas Sympson de Hengill bapt. October ye 8th.
1692. Alicia filia Stephi Sympson de Gisbarne 2° die ffebr.
1694. Letticia filia Stephi Sympson de Gisbarne 27° die ffebr.

Marriages.

1619. Stepheus Stoute Agneta Simpson vicessimo quinto die Novembris.
1619. Richus Simpson Anna Wilkinson secundo die Januarij.
1621. Oliverus Carr et Elizabetha Simpson decimo quarto die Maij.
1629. Stephus Simpson et Margreta ffoster quarto die Junij.
1663. Thomas Simpson of Hengill and Alice Wilkinson daughter of Jacobus Wilkinson xxx October.
1664. Edward Billington of the parish de Boulton and Jenet Simpson in the parish of Gisborn married the 8th of December 1664.
1675. Willimus Sympson de fforresta et Jana Jackson de Mill Gill nono die Septembris.
1692. Stephus Sympson et Letticia Browne 7° die Junij.
1709. Stephus Simpson de fforest & Margareta Priestley de Tosside 5° 9bris.
1720. Henricus Windle de Otterburne et Lettitia Simpson de fforest 17° Septemb. per Lic.
1729. Stephanus Simpson & Isabella Brennand ambo de hac parôc. Junij 12° p. Ban.
1741. Christopher Frankland & Alice Simpson March 1st.
1743. William Simpson & Elizabeth Dewhurst both of Aigden April 7th. p. B.
1782. Thomas Simpson Farmer and Anne Bank Widow Feby. 3rd.

Burials.

1582. Elizabetha filia Richi Simpson xiiij die Junij.
1586. Johes Simpson octavo die Aprilis.
1587. Uxor Richi Simpson quarto die ffebruarij.
1597. Richus Simpson de fforest quinto die Julij.
1603. Isabella filia Johis Simpson de fforest ultimo die Octobris.

1614. Johes Simpson de fforest decimo septimo die ffebruarij.
1642. Johes filius Stephni Simpson de Hengill vicessimo octavo die Septembris.
1643. Agneta filia Richi Simpson de fforest die sequenti (22 Junij).
1645. Uxor Richi Simpson de fforest undecimo die Septembris.
1645. Richus Simpson de fforest decimo nono die Januarij.
1649. Uxor Stephni Simpson de fforest die sequenti (i.e. 5° Aprilis).
1656. Alice uxr. Johis Simpson of fforest the tenth of Augusti.
1663. Uxor Johis Simpson de fflasse Aug. 30th.
1668. Steven Sympson de fforest was buried ffebruarij 16.
1681. Johes Sympson de Mosse Nov. 3.
1683. Thomas Simpson de Hengill April 26.
1689. Thomas Sympson de fforest 7° die Septembris.
1694. Alicia filia Stephi Sympson de Gisburne 26° die 7 bris.
1698. Willus Sympson Feb. 1.
1698. Stephanus Sympson Senr. 16° die ffebruarij.
1706. Jana relict Gulim Simpson de fforest 8° Januarij.
1712. Gulimus filius Stephi Simpson primo die Martij.
1716. Jacobus Simpson de Rimington agric. 12° Martij.
1722. Letitia Uxor Stephani Simpson de Hengill 26° Maij.
1725. Jacobus filius Stephi Simpson de Creakow Hill 11mo. Dec.
1725. Margaret wife of Stephen Simpson of Creakow Hill 14 December.
1731. Isabella uxor Stephen Simpson de fforest Jan. 19th.
1743. Stephen Simpson of Hengill widower 5° Maij.
1755. Thomas Simpson of Cracow Hill 7th. April.
1757. John son of Thomas Simpson of Forest 27th. March.
1758. Isabel dau. of Thomas Simpson of Forest 3rd. Feby.
1763. Alice daughter of Thomas Simpson of Forest 11th. June.
1766. Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill March 15th.

BOLTON BY BOLLAND.

Baptisms.

1626. Alis the daughter of Richard Simson of the Forest of Gisborne. the xxviij of May.
1644. Agnes the dr. of Stephen Simpson of the pish. of Gisborne. the viij day of September.
1747. Thomas the son of Thomas Simson Sep. 27th.
1749. Elizabeth the dr. of Thomas Simson Jany. 20th.
1752. John the son of Thomas Simson May 10th.
1757. Margret the dr. of Stephen Simson Novr. 13th.

Marriages.

1717. James Read and Mary Simpson Oct. 31st.
1751. John Swinglehirst and Alice Simson both of this parish. married by banns Sep. 15th.

Burials.

1687. Robert the son of William Simson of Tossit the xxj th. day of December.
1712. William Simpson of Tosside Nov. 13th.
1715. Elizabeth Simpson of ye moss in Sawley demaign May. ye 4th.
1772. Ann Simpson from Grindleton Nov. 25th.
1789. Stephen Simpson Aug. 21st.

LONG PRESTON.

Baptism.

1719. Margaret ye daughter of Stephen Simpson in ye township of Wigglesworth baptized May 7th.

Burial.

1719. Margaret ye daughter of Stephen Simpson de Stub Wigglesworth buried Jany. 10th.

GARGRAVE.

Marriage.

1745. Thomas Simpson of Craca hill in the parish of Gisburne & Alice Dobson of the parish of Mitton by virtue of lycense granted by Fr. Yates. Nov. 30th.

SLAIDBURN.

Marriage.

1739. John Fell of this parish & Sarah Simpson of the Parish of Gisburne May 14th.

Burials.

1751. William son of Stephen Simpson of Champion Jany. 31st.
1753. Ann wife of Stephen Simpson of Highfield June 11th.
1760. Elizabeth Simpson from Gisburn Forest May 4th.

TOSSIDE.

Burials.

1782. Alice the wife of Thomas Simpson of Cuddies Tosside April 21st.
1796. Thomas Simpson son of Thomas Simpson, Husbandman, Stephen Moor, and Ann Bank widow May 22nd.
1805. Ann Simpson widow of Thomas Simpson deceased from Procters. Decr. 15th.

KENDAL.

Burial.

1788. William Simpson of Helsington Decr. 7th. aged 72.

MELLING.

Baptisms.

1792. John son of Elizabeth & William Simpson of Wray Poor March 11th.
1795. Jonathan Wortlay son of William & Jane Simpson of Wray April 5.

Marriages.

1790. William Simpson Hatter of this Parish & Elizabeth Chapman Spinster of the Parish of Grassingham by Banns Nov. 22nd.
1794. William Simpson Widower Hatter of this Parish & Jane Wortley Spinster of this Parish by Banns June 10th.

Burial.

1793. Elizabeth Simpson of Wray Sepr. 18th.

SKIPTON.

Baptisms.

1803. Feby. 20th. Ann 1st. born of John Simpson of Skipton Tanner S of John S late of Canterbury Woolcomber & Betty d of Abraham Rushforth of S. Weaver Nov. 1.
1805. June 2 Mary 1st. d of John Simpson Skipton Tanner s of John S (late of) Gisburn Labourer a Soldier & Betty d of Abraham Rushforth S. Gardener Mar. 20.
1809. March 26 Margeret 3rd. d of John Simpson of Skipton Tanner S of John S. late of Canterbury Mason & Betty d of Abraham Rushforth of Skipton Weaver Feby. 3.
1811. Novr. 24 Elizabeth 4th. daughter of John Simpson of Skipton Tanner S of John S. late of Canterbury Labr. & Elizabeth d of Abraham Rushforth late of Skipton weaver Sepr. 15th.
1815. July 9th Sarah daughter of John & Elizabeth Simpson born April 25th 1815.
1820. August 20th Jane daughter of John & Elizabeth Simpson born June 30th 1820.

Marriage.

1802. John Simpson Tanner & Betty Rushforth Spinster both of this Parish Jany. 18th.

CATON.

Marriage.

1805. Thos. Simpson of the parish of Preston batton machine maker and Agnes Moore Spinster of this Chapelry by Licence 15 July. Witnesses John Smith Ann Morley.

PRESTON.

Marriages.

1803. William Sutton a Bachelor of this parish and Mary Simpson also of this parish, Spinster by banns 15 August. Wit. Thomas Simpson William Holgate.
1804. William Simpson, a widower of this parish and Elizabeth Wilkinson also of this parish Spinster by Licence 22 March. Wit. William Maud Thomas Simpson.
1804. William Pennington a bachelor of this parish and Elizabeth Simpson also of this parish, Spinster by banns 31 December. Wit. Robert Easterby Jno Pennington.
1812. Edmund Simpson and Ann Leeming, both of this parish by licence 5 April. Wit. Stephen Simpson, Mary Sutton.
1817. Edward Allen of this parish and Margaret Simpson of this parish by banns 18 August. Wit. Mary Cullingworth, Isaac Simpson.
1817. Stephen Simpson & Mary Gibson by Banns Nov. 26 Wit. Jane Winder Lawrence Tomlison.
1820. Jonathan Simpson of Bingley Yorkshire to Ann Ianson by Banns June 6. Witnesses Isaac Simpson Jenny Ianson.
1820. Isaac Simpson (Bachelor) to Mary Ann Hargreaves Spinster by Banns Decr. 4 (Signed) " Hargraves " Witnesses Elizabeth Lees Richd. Eastham.

Burial.

1821. Stephen Simpson Church St. Preston Novr. 25 age 69.

Extracts from Nonconformist Registers.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, HIGH STREET, LANCASTER.

Baptisms.

1769. Elizabeth daughter of John Simpson of Sline Turnpike Oct. 22nd.
1770. William son of John Simpson Sline Turnpike March 18.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

Birth.

1800. 9.15 Simpson Isaac, Greta Bridge, Psh. of Tunstal Co. Lancaster, names of parents Stephen and Elizabeth of Greta Bridge Clockmker. Monthly Meeting Settle.

Marriage.

1780. 3.7 Lancaster, Stephen Simpson, Clockmaker, Greta Bridge, Psh. of Melling, Lancashire, Parents names William and Elizabeth Simpson deceased to Elizabeth Porter Kendal Westmoreland late Eamont Bridge Psh. of Penrith Cumberland Parents names Edmund & Mary Porter, Monthly Meeting, Lancaster.

Burial.

Date of Death 1801. 4. 4. John Simpson age about 16, son of Stephen (Clockmaker) & Elizabeth Simpson of Parish of Tunstal Lancashire. Date of Burial 1801. 4. 7. Calf Copp. Place of Burial. Monthly Meeting, Settle.

Extract from Marriage Licence Bonds.

YORK.

1745. Novr. 30. Licence for the marriage of Thomas Simpson of Cracoe Hill Gisburne Bachelor aged 22 & Alice Dobson of Mitton Spinster aged 21.

APPENDIX II.

Wills at York.

Will of John Symsone als Jenkine of the Mearesicke par Gisburne, husbandman.

(*Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol. 23, fol. 212.*)

In the name of God Amen, the twelvthe daye of Aprill Anno dni a thousand fyve hundrethe seaventie eyghte, and in the twentie yeare of the reigne of our soveraigne Ladie Elizabethe Quene of England &c. I John Symsone als Jenkine of the Mearesicke of the parishe of Gisburne and wthin the Countie of Yorke husbandman am of good and perfect remembrance praysed be god but growethe into old aige am fullie a mynded wth my selfe to ordeyne constitute make and declare this my presente testament contayned therein my last will in maner and forme followinge. First and principallie I give and bequethe my soule unto Almyghtie god my maker redemer and saviour. And my bodie to be buried in the parishe churche yeard at Gysburne aforesaid. Itm. I do give Graunt and assigne all that my whole tytle intrest and tenante righte of my tenemente called the Mearsicke unto Richard Symsone my sone wth the lycence of the landlord thereof. Itm my will and mynd is that all my goodes and Chattalles bothe moveable and unmoveable to me apperteyninge at the daye of my death to be devided into two equall partes. The moytie and halfe whereof I will that my Children viz :—Richard, Margaret, and Agnes have devided amongst them accordinge to law in consideracon of their filiall partes and porcons the wch of Righte is to them due. And out of the other moytie and halfe of my said goodes beinge my parte and comonlie called the Death parte I give and bequiethe as followethe viz :—I give and bequiethe unto Margaret Scott my eldest daughter one Amberie the best bed of clothes one great Brasse pott and the best panne that I have at my house. Itm I give and bequiethe unto Xtofer Scott the eldest sonne of Robert Scott the best heffer at my house. Itm I give and bequieth unto Edmond Battersbie the eldest sonne of Roberte Battersbie my best heffer next unto that. Itm I give and bequiethe unto Agnes Scott and Margerie Scott the eldest daughters unto Robert Scott of Halbancke two of the best sackes that I leave at my house. Itm I give and bequiethe unto Richard Browne of Gaitbecke my syster sonne tene shillinges. Itm I give and bequiethe unto Henrie Carre that maried my syster doughter thre shillinges foure pence. Itm all the rest of my said goodes and Cattalles called the deades parte after my legacies and funerall expences first therupon paid and discharged I give and bequiethe wholie unto my two daughters equallie betwixt them viz :— Margaret Scott the wyfe of Robert Scott of the Halbancke and Agnes Battersbie wyfe of Roberte Battersbie of the Gill of the parishe of Bolton nyghe Bolland. Itm I do ordeyne constitute and make Margaret Scott and Agnes Battersbie my two daughters the executrices of this my present last will and testament. Also I ordeyne constitute and make Roberte Scott and Roberte Battersbie Supervisoures to se that this my last will be trulie fulfilled and executed as my truste is in them. Thes beinge witnesses Willm Atkinsone, Richard Browne, Roberte Scott and Richard Smythsone.

Probate granted 7th. May 1586 to Agnes Battersbie, executrix, Margaret Scott, co executrix, having renounced.

(*No original preserved.*)

Abstract of the Will of John Browne of Gedbecke in the township of Pathorne & parish of Gisburne husbandman.

Date 1st April 31. Eliz (1589).

To be buried in parish churchyard of Gisburne.

To Richard my eldest son my interest & term in my tenement save that my wife shall have ⅓rd for life.

To Alice my wife ⅓d of all my goods & chattels.
,, Christopher Browne my 2nd son now servant unto Mr. Sergeant Walmsley another ⅓d part thereof.
I give the last ⅓d part thereof after payment of my funeral exs &c to the sd Christopher my sd 2nd son.

I appoint the sd Christopher Sole Executor.

Witnesses Thomas Walmsley Thomas Thorne.

Probate granted 5th October 1597 to Christopher son & Sole Executor.

Abstract of the Will of Alice Browne of Gedbecke in the Co of York widow

(*Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol.* 28, *fol.* 884.)

Date 27th Septr 1601.

To be buried in parish Churchyard of Gisbroughe (? Gisburne).

To Christopher Browne £3 he to pay same to his 3 Daughters Ellen Browne, Isabell Browne, & Elsabeth Browne 20/– each.

I will that John Browne of Hellifield pay the sd £3 which he oweth me to my sd son Christr within 18 mos of my death.

To Willm Browne & Roger Browne 1 cow & that Edward Broadebelt keep her to 3rd May next.

To Alice Browne an Arke.
,, Anthony Browne an Almerie & chest.
,, Jane Silverwood 1 huge pan.
,, Jennett Ellis my daughter 2 Coverlets &c.
,, John Browne 1 hammer & 2½ yds of linen cloth.
,, Edward Broadebelt all my part of the Corn & hay in the barn.

Residue to Edward Brodebelt & John Browne equally whom I make Executors.

Witnesses: John Willson, Mathewe Ridioughe & John Horneby.

Probate granted 13th Janry 1602 by Dean of Craven to Edward Brodebelt one of the Exors power being reserved for John Browne Co executor.

Will of Richard Simpson of Mearsyke, co. York, husbandman.

In the name of God Amen, the thirde day of July Anno dni 1597 I Richard Simpson of Mearsyke in the Countie of York husbandman sicke in body but whole in minde and of good and perfect remembrance praised be God did ordeyne devise and make his last will and testament nuncupative in manner and forme followinge. First and principallie he did freely give and commende his soule unto Almightie God his onely maker and redemmer by the death and merrits of whose sonne Jesus Christe and through fayth in his bloude he trusted to have full remission of all his sinnes firmely and constantly beleevinge after his miserable and transitorie life to bee made pertaker of his glorious kingedome in the life to come, and his body to bee buried in the parishe Churchyearde of Gisborne at the sight and discretion of his friendes. Itm. It was his will and minde that all duetyes and expences wch of right were accustomed and due to bee payed shoulde bee made annswered and paied for his obsequies and buriall by his executor hereafter named. Itm he did freely passe and assigne unto John Simpson his eldest sonne the lease of his whole tenement provided alwayes that in consideracon thereof he shoulde pay the some of tenne poundes, and the same to goe in accompte wth the rest of his goods. Itm he gave and bequesthed unto Agnes Simpson his daughter tenne poundes. Itm he gave and bequesthed unto Richard Simpson his eldest sonnes sonne one gimber beinge the best he had save one. Itm it was his will and minde after his debtes payed his legacies and bequests delivered and his funerall expences discharged that all his goodes moveable and unmoveable shoulde bee equallie devided amongst his thre Children to witt John Simpson, Willm Simpson and Agnes Simpson. Itm he did ordayne and make John Simpson whole executor of this his last will and he did utterlie revoke and annull all and every former testamentes will legacies bequests and executors by him in anie wyse before that time made named willed or bequeathed. Thes beinge wyttnesses. Henrye Woodwarde, Thomas Broxopp, Willm Geldert, Anthoney Woodwarde and Ralph Atkinson.

Probate granted 1st. September 1597 to the executor named in the will.

(*From Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol.* 27, *fol.* 28. *No original preserved.*)

Abstract of the Will of Robert Battersbie of the parish of Bolton nigh Bolland co York husbandman.

(*Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol.* 24, *fol.* 189.)

Date 6th Septr 1589 (Nuncupative).

To be buried in Church or Churchyard of Bolton afsd.

He desired his goods to be divided into 3 equal parts whereof Agnes his wife should have one part & the other 2 parts he gave to all his children equally at 21 or marriage.

He willed that Agnes his wife should occupy his farmhold for the education of his children until Edmond Battersbie his eldest son should be 21 when he should have $\frac{2}{3}$rds of it & his wife $\frac{1}{3}$rd Also that he shod have a parcel of ground lying in the Knottes paying to every one of his brethern & sisters £3–6–8.

He confessed that Jennet Turner his sister had 2 kine of his of which he gave one to Robert Turner her son & the other to his wife & children his supervisors to keep Robt Turners until he shd be 21.

He wished any dispute to be settled by John Bonde Robt Skotte Richard Simpson & Allan Atkinson whom he made Supervisors.

He made Agnes his wife & Edmond his son Executors.

Witnesses John Bonde Robte Skotte Richard Simpson & Allan Atkinson.

Probate granted 8 Decr 1589 to Agnes the relict power being reserved for Edmond, son & Coexecutor.

Will of John Sympson of Mearesike, husbandman.

(*Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol.* 33, *fol.* 671.)

In the name of God Amen, the xxviith day of Decembre in the yeare of our Lord God 1614 I John Sympson of Mearesike in the Countye of Yorke husbandman sicke in bodye But whole in mynde and of good and perfect Remembrance praysed be God, Doe ordeyne and make this my last will and testament in maner and forme followinge First and principally I freelye give & bequeath my soule to Almyghtye God my onely maker savior and Redeemer, And my bodye to be buryed in the parishe church or church yearde of Gisburne at the discretion of my Freendes, Itm yt is my mynde that my Debts and funerall expenses be dischardged of all my goodes. Itm yt is my will & mynde that my wyfe Agnes Simpson shall have the one halfe of my tente yf she can agree and compounde wth the lord of the same duringe her wydowheade, And my sonne Richard Simpson to have the other halfe. Also yt is my mynde that my wyfe shall have the third parte of all my goodes And the reast I give equally to be devyded emonges my children. Itm yt is my mynde that my said sonne Richard Simpson shall give to everye one of his bretheren and Sisters XXs a pese as they shall come to Age yf they can deale with the lord in some reasonable sorte for his lease of the Tenement. Itm I give to everyeone of my God Children VId a peece. And lastly my Will & mynde, that Agnes Sympson my said wyfe shalbe my whole executor. Theis bearinge Wytnes John Ellis, Stephen Woodwarde and Stephen Foster.

(sworn) (sworn).

Probate granted 5th. October 1615 to Agnes Simpson, relict and Sole Executrix.

(*From original paper copy. No signatures nor seal.*)

Will of Mald Foster of Over marsike in the Forest of Gisburne & Coy of York. spinster.

In the name of God Amen, the three and twentieth daie of October Anno Dni 1610 I Mald Foster of Over marsike in the Forrest of Gisburne and countie of Yorke spinster sicke in bodie but of good and perfect remembrance praised be Almightie God therefore do ordaine declare demise and make this my last will and testament in manner and forme following. First and principallie I do freelie give and comend my soule into the mercifull hands of God by the death and merritts of whose sonne Jesus Christ and through faith in his bloud I trust to have suites remission of all my synnes firmlie and constantlie beleiving after this miserable and transitorie life to be made partaker of his heavenlie kingdome in the life to come and my bodie to be buried in my parish church yard of Gisburne at the sight and discrecon of my freinds wch shalbe there present at the tyme of my buriall. Itm it is my will that all duties and demaunds which are due be paid and discharged for and concerning my buriall by my executors hereafter named. Itm I give to Stephen Simpson Henrie Simpson William Simpson Jennet Simpson and Elizabeth Simpson everie one twentie shillings. Itm I give and bequeath to other the rest whome I am aunt unto everie one five shillings. Itm to Henrie Foster one silver spoone. Itm to Stephen Fosters wife one saifegard and one crosse cloth for her head. Itm I give to Margaret Foster my best under petticoate one pallett and my worst lynnen apron. Itm I give to my sister Agnes Simpsonn my chest and all my lynnen clothes my best hatt two gownes a

petticoat and my parte of bees. Itm to young Stephen Simpson my worser hatt. Itm to Robert Battersbie wife one petticoate pallett and a paire of blewe stockinges. Itm to Elizabeth Wilcocke my worst hosen and one workedaie pallett. Itm I give to Henrie Geldert my godsonne XIId. Itm to Rowland Whalley XIId. Itm to Stephen Kendall XIId. Itm to John Chamber's wife my workeday hatt and workeday apron. Itm it is my will and mynd that after my Funerall expences be discharged my legacies and bequeathes delivered All the rest of my goods be devided into two equall partes thone parte thereof I give and bequeath unto my naturall brother Richard Foster clarke and the other parte to John Simpson my brother in lawe. Lastlie I do ordaine and make the said Richard Foster and the said John Simpson executors of this my last will and testament trusting that according to my true meaning herein they will dulie execute and performe the same. These being witnesses Ralphe Goore and Stephen Foster.

Probate granted 31st. October 1612 to Richard Foster & John Simpson co executors named in the will.

(*From Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol. 32, fol. 214. No original preserved.*)

Abstract of the Will of Oliver Carr of Brownebanck in the County of York husbandman.

(*Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol. 41, fol. 73.*)

Date 28 October 1629 (Nuncupative).

He wished his debts should be paid viz to John Swanison son of Lawrence Swanison of Rawthmell 40/– to John Carr of Langgill 40/– & other small debts.

Residue to Elizabeth his wife to the use of herself & her daughter.

He appointed the sd Elizabeth his wife Executor.

Witnesses Thomas Battersby Henry Walmisley.

Probate granted 10th June 1630 to Elizabeth widow relict & Sole Executrix.

Will of Stephen Simpson the elder of Hengill.

(*From original.*)

In the name of God Amen, this third day of February in the year of our Lord God One thousand six hundred Ninety & eight I Stephen Simpson the Elder of Hengill in the Forrest of Gisborne within the Dioces of York, Batchellour, being somewhat infirm in body, but of sound mind and perfect memory praised bee Almighty God for the same, & calling to mind the uncertainty of this transitory life Doe make and declare this my last Will & Testamt in maner & form following. And First & principally I recomend my Soul into the mercifull hands of Almighty God, assuredly trusting in & through the merritts & mediacon of Jesus Christ my Saviour to have full & free remission of all my Sins. And my Body I committ to the Earth to be buried in decent & Christian maner att the discretion of my friends & my Executor hereafter named. And as for that Temporall Estate, wherewith it hath pleased God to blesse mee I order & dispose thereof as followeth. Imprimis I give & bequeath unto my Sister Agnes Clark, Widdow, the sum of Five pounds Item I give & bequeath unto Ralph Thomas & Elizabeth Clark Children of my said sister Agnes unto each of them the sum of three pounds a piece, which sd Legacies I order to bee paid within twelve months next after my Decease. Item I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth Margarett, Stephen, Thomas & William Simpson, Children of my brother William Simpson, late deceas'd, unto each of them the sum of three pounds a piece, to bee paid unto each of them as soon as they shall accomplish lawfull years, for giving my Executor a sufficient discharge. And it is my Will & mind, & I doe hereby Will, that if any of my sd Brother William's Children shall happen to dye before they shall receive their severall bequests or Legacies abovesd Then the bequests and Legacies belonging to them or any of them so dying shall descend and redound unto the Survivours equally amongst them. Item I give & bequeath unto Stephen, Elizabeth, Margarett & William Billington, Children of my late Sister Jennett unto each of them the sum of three pounds a piece to bee paid within twelve months next after my decease. Item I give & bequeath unto my Nephew James Simpson the sum of ten pounds to bee paid also within twelve months next after my decease. Item I give & bequeath unto Dorothy Brown (the Daughter of Lettice ye now wife of my Nephew Stephen Simpson) the sum of twenty shillings. Item I give & bequeath unto Lettice ye Daughter of my sd Nephew Stephen Simpson, the sum of Five pounds, both which Legacies I order to bee paid as soon as they can give my Executor a Sufficient discharge. Item I give & bequeath unto John Clark the sum of two shillings six pence. Item after my funerall expences bee discharged which I would have to bee suitable to my degree, neither excessive nor defective, with peny dole for the poor people only of Gisborne parish & after all the bequests & Legacies abovesd bee honestly paid. Then I give & bequeath all the residue & remainder of my Estate, Goods,

Cattels, chattells & Creditts whatsoever to mee belonging unto my sd Nephew Stephen Simpson, whom I nominate constitute & appoint Sole Executor of this my last Will & Testamt adnulling & making void all former Wills & Testamts by mee heretofore made either in word or writing. In Witnesse whereof I hereunto sett my hand & seal the day & year first above written.

Sealed signed & declared to bee the last Will & Testamt of Stephen Simpson abovesd in sight & presence of William Mattacke. juratus.

his ℧ mark

Stephen (Seal) Simpson

Nicholas Geldard.
Tho. Geldard.

N.B.—The Seal (partly broken off) has been a floral device.

Probate granted 18th. March 1699 to Stephen Simpson the nephew & executor.

(*From Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol. 62, fol. 264.*)

An Inventory of the goods and Chattles of Stephen Simpson late of Hengill in the Forrest of Guisburne in the County of Yorke deceased apprized by us the second day of March Anno Regni Regis Gulielmi Tertie nune Angliae &c. undecimo Annoqz Domini 1698 as follows.

	li.	s.	d.
Imprs. his purse and apparrell.	02.	10.	00
Itm one Mare and hackney saddle.	02.	00.	00
Itm one Foale and one yeareing Stagg.	02.	00.	00
Itm one Coffer and one Chest	00.	06.	00
	06.	16.	00
Debts owing to the Testator by Specialtyes.			
John Sagar de Rimington by bond.	10.	00.	00
Thomas Wilkinson de Wigglesworth.	08.	00.	00
William Simpson de Tosside by Bond.	10.	00.	00
Thomas Walker de Bolton by bond.	10.	00.	00
John Roades de Haworth by bond.	04.	00.	00
	42.	00.	00
Debts owing to the Testator without Specialtyes.			
William Mattocke de Paythorne.	05.	00.	00
John Ardington de Thornber	04.	00.	00
William Lister de Parkehouse.	06.	00.	00
	15.	00.	00
Suma total.	63.	16.	00
Dubious debts.			
William Simpson.	10.	00.	00
Thomas Walker in parte of his bond.	06.	05.	00

Apprized by us whose names are hereunto Subscribed.
James Simpson.
Richard Slater.
William Harrison.

Bond dated 7th. September 1699 (on usual printed form) by Stephen Simpson of Hengill in the parish of Gisburne and Diocese of York, husbandman, and William Mattocke of Paythorne in the parish and Diocese aforesaid husbandman, to Richard Sterne A.M. Commissary of the Exchequer of John, Archbishop of York in £100.

That the sd Stephen Simpson, Sole Executor to his Unckle Stephen Simpson of Hengill late deceased would well & truly execute & perform the same Will, and Testament &c.

Witness
Jo. Horrocks.

Signed :—Step. Simpson. (L S)

Will. Mattack. (L S)

Seals a Dolphin.

Will of James Simpson of Rimington, Yeoman.

(Reg. Test. Ebor., Vol. 71, fol. 285.)

In the name of God Amen the fourth day of March in ye third year of the Reign of our Loving Gracious Sovraign Lord George by the Grace of God ovr Great Brittain &c King Defender of the Faith &c in ye year of our Lord God 171$^{9}_{7}$ I James Sympson of Rimington in ye prish of Gisburn & county of York Yeoman being infirm & weak in body but of pfect mind & memory thankes bee to God for ye same doe make & ordain this my last Will & Testament in manner & form following yt is to say first of all I give & recommend my Soul into ye hands of Almighty God yt Gave it & for my body I recommend yt to the earth to bee Buried in a Decent & Christian like manner at ye Discretion of my Executrix hereafter nominated nothing doubting but yt att the general Resurection I shall receive yc same again by the mighty power of God & as Touching such worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me I give & dispose of ye same in ye following manner & form viz.

Imprimis it is my will & mind yt all my just debts & funerall expences bee satisfied & payd out of my whole Estate.

Itm I give unto Stephen Simpson my Brother ye sum of one pound of current money of Great Brittain Item I give unto Mary my wife my house and two pcells of ground scituate within ye Township of Rimington known by the name of Green Gate & Greenlear containing by estimation two acres be ye same more or less withall ye appurtenances thereunto belonging to her and her heirs for ever. Item I give unto Lettice Sympson daughter to Stephen Sympson my Brother the sum of Twenty pounds of current money of Great Brittain to be payd to her or to her heirs executors or administrators immediately upon the decease of Mary my wife and for non-payment of ye said sum of Twenty pounds ye said Lettice Sympson or her heirs is to enter to possess & enjoy ye above mentioned house & lands untill ye said sum of Twenty pounds be fully and absolutely satisfied & payd with Lawful Interest for ye same Itm I also give and bequeath to Mary my wife all my goods cattels & chattels whatsoever whom I allso constitute ordain & appoynt sole Executrix of this my last Will & Testament. In Wittness whereof I have hereunto put my hand & seal ye day & year above written.

James (Seal) Simpson.

Sealed signed published & pronounced by the said James Sympson to bee his last Will & Testament in presence of us

J. Halsted —
Jno. Hartley Rogro Mitton.
Mary Haworth.

Probate granted 2nd. April 1717 to Mary Simpson Widow his relict the sole executrix

APPENDIX III.

Administrations at York.

Stephen Simpson of Gisburne.

On the 18th. day of March 1668 Administration of the Goods of Stephen Simpson late of Gisburne deceased intestate was granted to Jennett wife of Edward Billington to her own use as well as to the use of William, Stephen and Anne (Agnes) Simpson the children *also* of the said deceased—Inventory exhibited—Bond entered into.

(*Craven Deanery Act Book.*)

The Bond, Inventory, and other papers filed on administration are missing from the bundle in the Registry.

William Simpson of Flass.

On the 20th. day of May 1699 Administration of the goods of William Simpson late of Flass in the Parish of Gisburne Intestate deceased was granted to Jane Simpson his widow and relict.

(*Craven Deanery Act Book.*)

Bond dated 8th. May 1699.
Bondsmen Jane Simpson of Flass Parish of Gisburne widow and John Carr of the same Yeoman.
Administratrix Jane Simpson aforesaid.
Penalty £120.
Deceased " Wm. Simpson late of Flass of ye Diocese of York deceased ".
Inventory of Household goods, cattle &c annexed taken on 13th. January 1698 but contains nothing of genealogical interest.
Appraised by Richard Clough, Robert Turner, and Ralph Clarke at £60. 1. 2.

(*Original Administration Papers.*)

Jane Simpson of Moss.

On the 20th. day of May 1707 Administration of the goods of Jane Simpson widow late of *Moss* in the Parish of Gisburne intestate deceased was granted to Stephen and Elizabeth Simpson the children of the said deceased.

(*Craven Deanery Act Book.*)

Bond dated 9th. May 1707.
Bondsmen Stephen Simpson of Moss Parish of Gisburne, Cordwainer, Elizabeth Simpson of the same, Spinster, and John Swinglehurst of Gill in the said Parish Yeoman.
Penalty £40.
Administrators the said Stephen Simpson and Elizabeth Simpson.
Deceased " Jane Simpson widdow late of Moss aforesaid deceased theire late mother."
Inventory of Household goods &c attached appraised by Ralph Clarke, Ralph Jackson and Thomas Carr at £19 . 5 . 0 Nothing of genealogical interest.

(*Original Administration Papers.*)

Isabel Simpson of Gisburne.

On the 8th. day of February 1731 Administration of the goods of Isabel Simpson late of Gisburne intestate deceased was granted to Stephen Simpson her husband.

(*Craven Deanery Act Book.*)

Bond dated 24th. January 1721 (Sic but evidently an error for 1731).
Bondsmen Stephen Simpson of the Parish of Gisburne, Yeoman, Henry Priestley, of Sawley Demain in the County of York, Yeoman, and Lancelot Cotton of Skipton in the said County Gentleman.
Penalty £60.
Administrator Stephen Simpson aforesaid.
Deceased " Isabell Simpson late of Gisburn aforesaid his wife."
Inventory of Household goods &c annexed taken on 20th. January 1731 by Henry Priestley, Thomas Simpson and Bro. Salisbury.
In Inventory deceased is described " late wife of Stephen Simpson of Crake Hill in the Forest of Gisburne Yeoman."

(*Original Administration Papers.*)

Thomas Simpson of Cracow Hill.

On the 7th. day of May 1755 Administration of the goods of Thomas Simpson late of Cracow Hill in the Parish of Gisburne was granted to Stephen Simpson his brother and next of kin.

(*Craven Deanery Act Book.*)

Bond dated 29th. April 1755.
Bondsmen Stephen Simpson of Cracow Hill Parish of Gisburne Yeoman, John Balderston of Gisburn Clerk & Wm. Standing of Essington par of Slaidburn Yeoman.
Penalty £200.
Administrator Stephen Simpson aforesaid.
Deceased " Thomas Simpson of Cracow Hill in the Parish of Gisburn aforesaid.
No Inventory attached.

(*Original Administration Papers.*)

William Simpson of the parish of Kirkby Kendal.

On the 23rd. day of December 1788. Administration of the Goods &c of William Simpson of Helstone Turnpike in the parish of Kirkby Kendal in the County of Westmorland Toll Farmer, deceased, intestate, was granted to Stephen Simpson, his son, and only next of kin.

(*Prerogative Court Act Book.*)

Bond dated 20th. December, 1788.
Penalty £160.
Bondsmen Stephen Simpson, Greta Bridge Co. of Lancaster, Clockmaker, Simeon Coulthard of Burton in Kendal Co. Westmoreland, Yeoman, and William Simpson of Overwyersdale Co. Lancaster Hatter.
Condition for Administration by the said Stephen Simpson the only natural and lawful son and Administrator of the Goods etc. of the said William Simpson etc.
Inventory contains only household effects appraised at £21 . 8 . 0 by Richard Bendliss, Thomas Martin, Moses Wilkinson.
Grant of Administration to said Stephen Simpson passed Seal 23rd. December 1788 under £40.

APPENDIX IV.

Abstract of Deeds of Hengill.

1708. An Indenture dated 17th. March 1708 made Between **Stephen Simpson of Hengill** within the Forest & parish of Gisburn, co. York, yeoman, and Thomas Fell of Gilstead in the parish of Bingley co. York, gentleman, of the one part and James Gifford of Wycongill in the parish of Bolton & co. aforesaid, yeoman, of the other part of or concerning all those two messuages one barne, one stable one garden & one full moyety or half part in two equal parts to be divided of three score & sixteen acres & a half of land meadow & pasture, be the same more or less, with all houses, edifices, barns, stables, orchards &c. and parcels of land called cattle-gates, commons & common of pasture & turbary, ways, paths, woods, &c. &c. whatsoever to said messuage & the other said premises belonging &c. which said premises are situated &c. at Hengill aforesaid & are now in the possession of the said Stephen Simpson his assignee or assigns which said Indenture is witnessed by William Moorhouse of Skipton, Henry Lund of Thornber and Martin Richardson of Settle, all in co. York, yeomen.

Signed & sealed in (Signed) Step. Simpson.
the presence of
Hen. Lund jur.
Mar. Richardson.

(Regd at Wakefield 19th. March 1708 at twelve at noon.)

1711. An Indenture of Lease and Defeazance both dated 1st. May 1711 made **Between Stephen Simpson of Hengill** within the Forest and Parish of Gisburn, co. York, yeoman, and James Gifford of ffoxgill in the parish of Boulton juxta Bolland and county aforesaid, husbandman, of the one part, and Henry Shaw of Knots in the monastery of Sawley & co. aforesd yeoman, of the other part whereby the said Stephen Simpson and James Gifford for the considerations therein mentioned Did demise grant, bargain & sell unto the said Henry Shaw his Executors &c. All those two messuages one barn one stable one garden and all that full moiety or the one half of the three score & sixteen acres & a half of land meadow & pasture, be the same more or less, to the same belonging and appertaining situate &c. at Hengill aforesaid & now in the tenure & occupation of the said Stephen Simpson or his assigns, with all & singular houses, edifices, barns, stables, orchards, gardens, &c. &c. whatsoever to the said messuage & premises belonging &c. To have & to hold the said messuages the said moyety with their hereditaments &c. unto the said Henry Shaw his Exors. &c. and to his & their most benefitt and advantage from the day of the date hereof for & during & unto the full end and expiration &c. of the term of Nine hundred and ninety and nine years from thence next ensuing and fully to be paying for the same unto the said Stephen Simpson his heirs &c. the yearly rent of one pepper corn at the Feast of the Nativity of our Saviour upon lawful demand provided nevertheless that it is the true intent and meaning of these presents and of the parties to the same and so by them declared before the sealing and execution of these presents that if the said Stephen Simpson his heirs &c. do pay or cause to be paid unto the said Henry Shaw his exors &c. the full sum of one hundred & twenty pounds of lawful money &c. upon the first day of May next ensuing the date hereof Together also with lawful interest for the same from the date of these presents without any manner of deduction &c which said Indentures are witnessed by Robert Ellis of the parish of Bolton juxta Bolland, mercer, Henry Robinson of Lane Ends in parish of Mitton, husbandman, and William King of Whiteholme in the parish of Slaidburn, yeoman, and all of County York.

Signed & sealed in (Signed) Henry Shaw.
the presence of Robert Ellis
Henry Robinson
William King jur.

(Registd at Wakefield 3rd. May 1711 at 9 a.m.)

1720. An Indenture of Bargain and Sale dated 12th. August 1720, made Between **Stephen Simpson of Hengill** within Parish &c. of Gisburne, co. York, yeoman, Henry Shaw of Knotts in the monastery of Sawley & county aforesaid, yeoman, on the one part and John Tipping senr. of Sawley co. York yeoman, on the other part whereby the said Stephen Simpson and Henry Shaw for the considerations therein mentioned did demise, &c sell, assign, set over & confirm unto the said John Tipping his exors &c all those two messuages, one barn, one stable, one garden and one full moiety or one half part in two equal parts to be divided of Three score and sixteen acres and an halfe of land meadow & pasture thereunto belonging with all houses, buildings, orchards, garths, feedings, cattlegates common of pasture, turbary, ways, waters &c &c whatsoever to said messuage & premises belonging, which said premises are situate &c at Hengill aforesaid, now in possession or occupation of the said Stephen Simpson his assigns &c And was formerly purchased of Sir ffrancis Darcy of Bramford co Middlesex and Dame Katherine his wife By and under such covenants and agreements as in the said Indenture is mentioned and expressed as by relation thereunto more at large appeareth Which said Indenture is witnessed by Johannem Cooke de Sawley yeoman, et Lawr Knowles de parochiae de Mitton in com pdict, Byrseus et Johannem Cottam Ludi Magistru de Sawley pdict et Thomam Tipping de Sawley pdict coelebs.

Signed & sealed in the presence of us
John Cottam.
Tho. Tipping jur.

(Signed) Step. Simpson.
(Signed) Henry Shaw.

(Registd at Wakefield 23rd. August 1720 at 2 p.m.)

(*Abridged.*)

1722. An Indenture made 13 July, 1722, Between **Stephen Simpson of Hengill within the fforest and parish of Gisburne,** co. York, yeoman, on the one part, and John Tipping senr. of Sawley co. York yeoman on the other part of or concerning two messuages, one barn, one stable, one garden, and one full moiety or one half part (in two equal parts to be divided) of three score and sixteen acres and a half of land, meadow & pasture, with all houses, edifices, barns, buildings, stables, orchards, garths, gardens, &c. &c. cattlegates, commons & common of pasture, ways, waters, walls, &c. &c. whatsoever to the said messuage &c. appertaining, which said premises are **situate &c at Hengill** aforesaid, now in possession of the **said Stephen Simpson his** asignee or assignees (and was formerly **purchased of Sir Francis Darcy of Bramford co. Middlesex.** and Dame Catherine his wife) and the reversion and reversions, remainder & remainders of all and singular the said premises &c And also all the estate, right, title, interest, use, possession, property, claim, and demand whatsoever of him the **said Stephen Simpson his** heirs &c. of and in to the said premises. Which said Indenture is witnessed by Henry Holgate of Sawley in co. York, Blacksmith, Richard Hartley of the Greenhead in the manor of Sawley aforesd Batchelor, and Thomas Tipping of Sawley aforesd Batchelor.

Sealed & signed in the sight & presence of us
John Cooke.
Tho. Tipping jur.

(Signed) John Tipping.

(Registd at Wakefield 5 Jan. 1724 at 4 p.m.)

(*Abridged.*)

1725. An Indenture quadrupartite made 5th. April 1725 Between **Stephen Simpson of Hengill in the parish of Gisburne co. York, gentleman,** of the first part, Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston, co. Derby, Esq. of second part, the Governours of the Bounty of Queen Anne for the augmentation of the maintenance of the poor clergy of the third part, and Thomas Taylor, clerk, curate of the Chappell of Cletherowe in the parish of Whalley co. Lanc. and diocese of Chester of fourth part Of or concerning the messuage with appurtenances commonly known by the name of Hengill And all those several closes or parcels of arable, meadow & pasture thereunto belonging &c containing in the whole forty two acres &c. **situate in parish of Gisburne aforesd** and now or late in the tenure of Robert Adkinson or his assigns & all and singular houses, outhouses, barns, orchards, gardens &c. &c. whatsoever to the said messuage &c. belonging And the reversion & remainder, rents, issues & profits thereof &c. which said Indenture is witnessed by William Ward of Chadburne co. Lanc. Gent., Richard Leeming of Horrockford in township of Cletheroe aforesd yeoman, John Kendall of Chadburne aforesd mercer, and Thomas Tipping of the late dissolved monastery of Sawley co. York, Batchelor.

Sealed & signed in the presence of us.
(his mark)
Joh. $ Whittacre
Tho. Tipping jur.

(Signed) Step. Simpson.
(Signed) Tho. Taylor.

(Registd at Wakefield 21st. October, 1725 at 2 p.m.)

APPENDIX V.

Abstract of Deeds of Moor Close (now Moor Hall).

1748.—Indenture of ffeoffment dated 27th. May 1748 between Elizabeth Dodgshon of Pay Township Gisburne Co. York Widow, Relict & Ex^{x} of the last Will of Robert Dodgshon of Pay, Thomas Clark of Goosner Height, Gisburne Yeoman & Edmund Dodgshon of Paythorne Gisburne Yeoman of the one part and **William Simpson** of Hiles, Parish Long Preston Co. York Yeoman of the other part.

Concerning all those closes etc. of land lying within the Township of Paythorne commonly called the Moore & Limes containing 20 acres etc. now in the holding of the said William Simpson his assigns and all ways etc etc.

Execution witnessed by Thos. Geldard, Robert Harrison & Henry Hewitt.

Memorandum endorsed on above deed **William Simpson** to pay yearly modus during the space of one tythe lease viz 10/– at Martinmas next & 6/– in the year every year during the lease at Martinmas as above. Dated 7th January 1748-9.

Witnesses Thos Geldard.
Henry Hewitt. (Signed) William Simpson.

1767. Indenture of Bargain & Sale for years by way of mortgage, dated 12 February, 1767, Between **William Simpson** of Paythorne in par. Gisburne co. York, yeoman, of one part, and John Nightingale of East Marton co. York, farmer, of other part.

Concerning messuage, barn & other outbuildings thereunto belonging, and also several closes of land thereunto belonging commonly called the Moor and the Limes, now divided into several closes, which said Moor & the Limes were late the estate and inheritance of Robert Dodgson, late of Pay, in township of Paythorne, yeoman, deceased. All which said premises are situate in Paythorne 7c and now in occupation of said William Simpson, his assigns or undertenants & containing by estimation about 20 acres of land.

The execution of which said Indenture is witnessed by John Downham of Gisburne, cord-wainer, and Thomas Starkie of Gisburne, gentleman.

Signed & sealed in presence of (Signed) William Simpson.
Thomas Starkie, sworn.
John Downham.

(Regd. at Wakefield 2 April 1767, at 7 p.m.)

1769. Deed of assignment of a term of years dated 19 June 1769 Between **William Simpson late** of Paythorne in Gisburne parish, but now of Beamont Turnpike in co. Lancaster Yeoman of first part, and John Nightingale of East Marton, co. York, of second part, and Henry Croasdill of Marton Scarr and Robert Harrison of Paythorne, farmer, of third part, concerning Dodgson property (as in Deed 12 Feby. 1767) Witnessed by John Barcroft & Robert Rodgers, both of Gisburne par. gentlemen.

(Signed) Robert Harrison.

(Regd. at Wakefield 10 July 1769 at 9 a.m.)

1776. Indenture of Lease & Release & assignment dated 6th. and 8th. July, 1776, Between **William Simpson** of Greta Bridge Turnpike in Tunstall parish yeoman, of one part, and Christopher Hartley of Barley in the Forest of Pendle co Lanc. yeoman, of other part, the Release being of four parts made between Henry Croasdill of Marton Scarr, yeoman of first part the said William Simpson and Elizabeth his wife, of second part, said Christr. Hartley of third part, and William Hartley of Barley aforesaid yeoman of fourth part.

Concerning Robert Dodgson's property (as in Deeds 12 Feb 1767 and 19 June 1769) now in occupation of John Gabbot &c Said Indenture of Lease by the said William Simpson is witnessed by Thomas Starkie, of Gisburne gent. and Thomas Jepson Starkie of Gisburne gent. clerk to said Thomas Starkie, and the execution of the said Indenture of Release and assignment by the said Henry Croasdill and William & Elizabeth Simpson is witnessed by said Thomas Starkie & Thomas Jepson Starkie.

(Signed) William Simpson.
(Signed) Elizabeth Simpson.

(Registd. at Wakefield 25 July 1776, at 7 p.m.)

The original deeds are now in the hands of Messrs. Robinson & Sons, Solicitors, Blackburn, as Agents for Lord Ribblesdale.

APPENDIX VI.

Abstract of Deeds of Cottages, Gisburne.

1766. Indenture dated 24th. April 1766 between John Hartley & Robert Hartley of Gisburne co York Yeoman of the one part and **William Simpson** of Moor Close in the Township of Paythorne, parish of Gisburne Co. of York Yeoman of the other part.

Concerning all that part of the west end of the messuage belonging to the said John & Robert Hartley wherein John Riding dwelleth & one shop wherein Joseph Waddington, roper now worketh with an enlargement at the sunside, the whole length to line the widness of the house in which Robert Hartley now dwelleth with Stec room & a yard broad at the west end to pass & repass. All which premises are situate at Gisburne aforesaid.

Execution witnessed
by
John Fell.
David Blegbrough.

(His mark or letter)
John (H) Hartley
(His mark or letter).
Robert (H) Hartley.

1789. Indenture of Assignment and Surrender, dated 12th. May, 1789, Between **Stephen Simpson of Greeta Bridge, co. Lanc., Clock Maker, Sole administrator of all & singular the Goods, Rights, Credits,** Cattles & Chattels of **William Simpson late of Helstone in the parish of Kirkby Kendal co Westmorland, yeoman, his late father, deceased, who died intestate,** of the one part, and Thomas Lister of Gisburne Park in the parish of Gisburne, co York, Esquire, of the other part, of and concerning three cottages situated opposite the Church Yard in Gisburne, Two of which cottages are slated and the other thatched, now in the occupation of John Lancaster, James Hardacre and John Greenwood or their undertenants. The execution of which Indenture is witnessed by Thomas Starkie of Gisburne Gentleman & Robert Starkie of same place, Gentleman.

(Signed) Stephen Simpson.

(Regd. at Wakefield 4 August, 1789 at 7 p.m.)

APPENDIX VII.

Abstract of Deeds of House at Greta Bridge.

1789. Indentures of Lease & Release dated 9th. & 10th. Feby. 1789 between Miles North of Kirkby Lonsdale, Co. Westmoreland Esq. Lord of the manor of Tunstall, co Lancaster of the one part and **Stephen Simpson of Greeta Bridge,** parish and manor of Tunstall aforesaid clocksmith of the other part whereas some time since at a Court held for the said manor before Christopher Picard, Gentleman, steward of the said Court it was certified by the Jurors sworn that it would not be any injury to the Lord of manor or to the Tenants thereof or to any other of His Majesty's subjects if the said Stephen Simpson should inclose a certain piece of waste ground as the same was then set out situate at and adjoining to Greeta Bridge aforesaid ; and whereas leave was given to the said Stephen Simpson to inclose and take the same upon payment of the annual rent of 5/– and the said Stephen Simpson had erected a dwelling house & other buildings upon part of the said premises and converted the remainder thereof into a garden and yard.

For the making of a more perfect title of the said premises and in consideration of 5/– the said Miles North sold and confirmed to the said Stephen Simpson All that the said dwelling house situate at or adjoining to Greeta Bridge within the manor of Tunstall aforesaid and the out-houses garden and yard thereto also adjoining and belonging and then in the occupation of the said Stephen Simpson. He paying the said annual rent of 5/– and performing such suit and service at the courts to be holden for the said manor as the other tenants within the said manor had been accustomed to perform.

Execution witnessed by
John Willis
Chris. Picard.

Miles North (L S)

1789. Indenture of demise by way of mortgage dated 23rd June 1789 between the said **Stephen Simpson** of the one part and Thomas Harris of Borwick Co Lancaster of the other part. Concerning the aforesaid premises for the sum of £40 and interested at 4½% per annum.

Stephen (L S) Simpson.

1801. Receipt dated 27th. June 1801 by the said Thomas Harris for the above sum and interest.

1801. Indenture of conveyance dated 30th. November 1801 between the said **Stephen Simpson** of the one part and Edmund Tatham of Canstfield parish of Tunstall aforesaid Gentleman John Tatham of Lowfields, Township of Burton in Lonsdale Gentleman, John Gerard of Garswood Co Lancaster Esq., Francis Hannam Abbotson of Cantsfield aforesaid Gentleman Richard Crumbleholme of Rairan Township of Burton in Lonsdale aforesaid yeoman George Richard Marton Esq. younger son of Oliver Marton late of Lancaster, Clerk, deceased, and William Wilson Carus Wilson of Casterton Hall, parish of Kirkby Lonsdale, Esq. of the other part.

Concerning the aforesaid premises.

Consideration £100 paid as follows £42 by the said Edmund Tatham £15 by the said John Tatham £13 by the said John Gerard £10 by the said Francis Hannam Abbotson £8 by the said Richard Crumbleholme £6/10/– by the said George Richard Marton and £5/10/– by the said William Wilson Carus Wilson.

They paying the said annual rent of 5/– and performing all such suit and service as should from thenceforth become due in respect of the said premises.

Execution witnessed by
Thomas Beesley.
Charles Abbotson.

Stephen (L S) Simpson.

1801. Receipt dated 7th December 1801 by Edmund Tatham from William Wilson Carus Wilson of £5/10/- such sum having been advanced by Edmund Tatham to William Wilson Carus Wilson, his part of £100 paid to **Stephen Simpson of Caton,** co Lancaster Clock and watchmaker for a dwelling house with the appurtenances situate at the west end of Greta Bridge Township of Cantsfield conveyed by the said Stephen Simpson by a deed of feoffment dated 30th. November then last past.

1850. Indenture of conveyance dated 10th. April 1850 between Edmund Tatham Richard Tatham, R. T. Gerard, R. Abbotson, E. Stackhouse, Geo. Marton and W. W. C. Wilson of the one part and W. Gillison Bell of the other part.

Concerning the said premises

Consideration £100.

The original deeds are now in the hands of Messrs. Pearson and Pearson, Solicitors, Kirkby Lonsdale.

APPENDIX VIII.

Roll of Service of the descendants of my great-grandfather, Stephen Simpson, in the Great War, 1914-1918.

BOND, IRWIN LOCKWOOD, 3rd son of Stephen James Bond of Stone Ridge, Marbletown, Ulster, N.Y.; born September 18th, 1892; enlisted as Private in the Enlisted Reserve Corps, April 21st, 1917, and was assigned to the Quarter-Master Corps, U.S.A.; served at Plattsburg, N.Y.; warranted Sergeant, Q.M.C., October 1st, 1917. Died October 9th, 1918.

BOND, JOHN TURNER, 4th son of Stephen James Bond; born May 21st, 1895; enlisted as Private in the 33rd Company, 8th Coast Artillery Corps, N.Y. National Guard, June 11th, 1914. Appointed Mechanic June 1st, 1915. Mustered into Federal Service June 14th, 1917, and served at Fort Wadsworth, N.Y., until January 10th, 1918. Warranted Corporal December 13th, 1917; transferred to 38th Company, Southern N.Y., January 10th, 1918; served at Bayonne, New Jersey, until March 27th, 1918; moved to Fort Hamilton, N.Y., and on June 15th, 1918, transferred to Battery "D," 70th Artillery C.A.C. at Fort Wadsworth, N.Y. Left for France, *via* Hoboken, June 15th, 1918; arrived at Brest July 22nd, 1918; La Membrolle, July 28th, 1918; St. Nazaire, January 28th, 1919. Left February 12th, 1919, for U.S.A.; arrived February 22nd, 1919; discharged from Camp Upton, N.Y., March 8th, 1919.

BROOKER, CUTHBERT HOWARD, eldest son of Rev. John W. Brooker; Private Irish Fusiliers; Sergt. R.A.S.C.; 2nd Lieut. R.F.A., France, 1916-18.

BROOKER, JOHN OSCAR, 2nd son of Rev. John W. Brooker; Private King's Liverpool Regt.; Sergt. 18th Cheshire & 14th King's Liverpool Regt., France, 1916-18. Wounded in knee.

BROOKER, REV. ARTHUR BASIL, M.A., 3rd son of Rev. John W. Brooker; C.F., 4th Class, France, 1915-17. Mentioned in despatches.

COOPER, ATHOL SCOTT, elder son of Charles H. Cooper, of London; born October 24th, 1892; enlisted in 14th Brigade, M.G. Co., Australian Imperial Forces, in Spring of 1916; rose to rank of Sergeant; gazetted 2nd Lieut. in Autumn of 1918; France, 1916-18.

COOPER, CHARLES CECIL, younger son of Charles H. Cooper; born October 31st, 1894; enlisted August 5th, 1914, as Motor Cyclist Despatch Rider, R.E. (Kitchener's first 250); promoted Corporal, and left for France August 21st, 1914. Awarded Cross of St. George of Russia, 4th Class, for safely delivering several important despatches under fire during the second battle of Ypres; gazetted 2nd Lieut. in 1st Buffs (East Kent Regt.) August 21st, 1915. Wounded at Combles. France, 1914-16; Salonika, 1917-18, where he served in a Machine Gun Company.

COPLAND, RANDOLPH, elder son of Montague Bigg Copland of Preston, Esq. January, 1915, joined R.N.V.R.; appointed by Admiralty for special service; January, 1916, H.M.S. *Hermione*; March, 1916, H.M.S. *Zaria*, for H.M.M.B. *Yehonala* at Scapa; November, 1916, H.M.S. *Victory*, for H.M. Motor Launch 927, in command; December, 1916, H.M.S. *Kingfisher*, for charge of Examination Service at Great Yarmouth; February, 1917, promoted Lieut. R.N.V.R.; January, 1918, Havre Naval Base for service with D.N.T.O.; February, 1918, H.M.S. *Zaria*, for special service and in charge of Examination Service at Stromness, Orkney; January, 1919, H.M.S. *Victorious II.*, as Assistant Mine Clearance Officer, Kirkwall, Orkney; November, 1919, demobilised. Under R.N.V.R. Act, 1917, retained commission until 1922.

COPLAND, JOHN, younger son of Montague Bigg Copland; born September 18th, 1884; 2nd Lieut. R.F.A. (T.F.) September 13th, 1915; France, 1916.

COWPE, WILLIAM FREDERICK, eldest son of William Cowpe of Mansfield Woodhouse. Guards Brigade (Coldstream Guards), 1899-1902; 2 medals and 8 clasps for service in South Africa. Given rank of Sergt. on joining Leicestershire Regt. in 1914; afterwards gazetted Temp. 2nd Lieut. and transferred to Sherwood Foresters. Demobilised with rank of Lieut., February, 1919. France and Belgium.

COWPE, CHRISTIAN, 3rd son of William Cowpe; Trooper 1st (King's) Dragoon Guards; transferred to 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons, June, 1916. Demobilised February, 1919. France.

CROOKE, HERBERT ALLEN, eldest son of Herbert Crooke of Acton, Middlesex; born April 2nd, 1887. Sergt. Singapore R.E. Vols.; mobilized with Regulars there August 8th, 1914; returned to Europe December, 1914; transferred to R.E. (T.F.); sent to Dover, April, 1915; remained there until demobilized as Sergt., March, 1919. Engaged on land defences, and for the last three years in Anti-aircraft Forces.

CROOKE, NORMAN WHITEHEAD, 2nd son of Herbert Crooke; born October 24th, 1889; joined London Scottish (14th County of London Territorial Regt.) as Private in November, 1911; mobilized August 4th, 1914; proceeded overseas September 22nd, 1914. Reported missing from Battle of Messines, October 31st, 1914.

CROOKE, SIDNEY EGERTON, 3rd and youngest son of Herbert Crooke; born January 17th, 1893; joined London Scottish as Private in November, 1911; mobilized August 4th, 1914; proceeded overseas September 22nd, 1914; sent home, frost-bite, January, 1915. Gazetted 2nd Lieut. July 6th, 1915, 2/2nd West Lancs. Brigade R.F.A., later known as 286th Brigade R.F.A.; Lieut., March 3rd, 1916; proceeded overseas February 9th, 1917; Capt and Adjt., November 1st, 1917, and Major commanding "D" Battery, 286th Brigade R.F.A., August 11th, 1918. Awarded M.C. January 1st, 1919. Demobilized January 23rd, 1919.

CROSBY, JOHN ALLEN, elder son of John Crosby of Manchester; enlisted September 24th, 1916, Private 202nd Canadian Battn.; left Canada, November, 1916; remained in England until May 10th, 1917; drafted to 50th Battalion in France, and served at Lens, Passchendaele, Amiens, Arras, and Cambrai. Invalided to England, November, 1918, owing to septic poisoning.

CROSBY, HAROLD, younger son of John Crosby; enlisted January 21st, 1915, Private in 51st Canadian Battn. at Edmonton, Alberta; transferred to 46th Battn. September, 1916. Severely wounded at Vimy Ridge, January 3rd, 1917. Discharged at Edmonton, Alberta, July 9th, 1919.

CURNOW, PERCIVAL JACOB, son of Jacob Curnow of Shaftesbury. Formerly of the Dorset Volunteers; joined as Private 7th Wilts. Regt. Three years on the Serbian, Bulgarian and Macedonian frontiers and in France.

CURTIS, EDWARD CURNOW, eldest son of Edwin Curtis of Sherborne and Rosa Curnow, his wife, daughter of Edward Hill, of Sherborne; born October 8th, 1895; enlisted May 7th, 1915, as Trooper 1st Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry; October, 1915, sailed to Greece; December, 1915, landed in Egypt, and took part in the famous charge of the Dorset Yeomanry at Agagia, February 26th, 1916. Afterwards served in Palestine, and was present at the two battles at Gaza. Severely wounded in the advance on Jerusalem November 21st, 1917; Capt. H. F. Yeatman, of the same regiment, brought him in, but was killed in doing so. Returned home March, 1918. Discharged 1919.

CURTIS, ERNEST CURNOW, 2nd son of Edwin Curtis; born November 20th, 1897; enlisted under Derby Scheme in 1915; not called up until April 27th, 1917; Trooper 3rd King's Hussars. Arrived in France November 13th, 1917; served in the Cavalry Brigade, and took part in many engagements. After the Armistice, went through Luxembourg into Germany, and stayed there until September, 1919.

HARDY, EVELYN MARGARET, wife of H. H. Hardy, and daughter of Rev. John W. Brooker; served 1915-17 in an Auxiliary Hospital, London.

HARGREAVES, ANTHONY NEWILL, only son of William Hargreaves, late H.M. Colonial Service; born October 17th, 1896; entered Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, from Rossall School, December, 1914; left before completing course, and gazetted 2nd Lieut. to 3/5th Battn. King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt., August 15th, 1915; joined 1/5th Battn. same regiment B.E.F., France, October, 1915; gazetted 2nd Lieut. King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt. (regular commission), May 15th, 1916. Served in 166th Light Trench Mortar Battery;

promoted Acting Lieut., December, 1916, and Acting Capt., July, 1917. Returned to duty as 2nd Lieut. with the 1/5th Battn., November 1st, 1917; promoted Lieut. 15th same month, and Acting Capt. the month following. Invalided home February, 1918. Now serving in Burma as Lieut. 2nd Battn. The King's Own Royal Regt. (Lancaster). Present at the Battles of Loos, Blairville, S. of Arras, Somme, Ypres (third battle), and Cambrai.

HEATON, EDWARD, youngest son of Stephen Heaton of Bingley; born August 7th, 1877. Railway constructing with 13th Leicestershire Regt., afterwards known as 20th Labour Corps, in the neighbourhood of Arras, France. Also served in the R.A.M.C.

HEATON, HARRY, elder son of Alfred Heaton of Bradford, and grandson of Stephen Heaton; born December 29th, 1892. Served in the Volunteers and 6th Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regt., "H" Co., Bingley, from January 3rd, 1907, to April 21st, 1910. Enlisted 2/4th Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regt., September 3rd, 1914; Musketry Instructor until 1917. Went to France with 62nd Division. Awarded M.M., Cambrai attack, November 20th, 1917. Wounded November 25th, 1917, Bourlon Wood. Demobilized February 21st, 1919.

HEATON, RICHARD, younger son of Alfred Heaton; born September 15th, 1900; enlisted in Durham Light Infantry, October 5th, 1917; transferred January 22nd, 1919, to 2nd Battn. Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regt. Discharged October 23rd, 1920, owing to serious operation.

HILL, ARTHUR, son of Edward Simpson Hill of Tooradin, Victoria, Australia, and grandson of Edward Hill of Sherborne. In France one year with the Australian Imperial Forces.

HILL, DUDLEY, another son of Edward Simpson Hill. In Egypt and France four years in the 43rd Battery Australian Imperial Forces.

HILL, JAMES FREDERICK, eldest son of James Horace Hill of Walthamstow; born March 11th, 1887; Corporal "C" Sub. "A" Battery, 70th Brigade R.F.A., 15th Division. France three years. Three times mentioned in despatches. Awarded M.M. and recommended for Croix de Guerre.

HILL, AUBREY GEORGE, 2nd son of James Horace Hill; born March 9th, 1893; Gunner 115th Brigade Ammunition Column, 29th Division. Six months in France. Three years in Salonika.

HINSHELWOOD, GEOFFREY CLYDE, eldest son of Clyde Campbell Hinshelwood of London; born December 22nd, 1891; educated Ovingdean Hall, Sussex, and Berkhamsted School, Herts. Electrical Engineer and Wireless Operator at North Sydney, Nova Scotia. Volunteered for active service in the Army on outbreak of the War, August, 1914, but was rejected on medical grounds for dental trouble. He then joined the R.N.V.R., where he served throughout the War as an officer at the Naval Wireless Station, Nova Scotia.

HINSHELWOOD, ALAN SEMPILL, 2nd son of Clyde Campbell Hinshelwood; born June 21st, 1894; educated at Ovingdean Hall, Berkhamsted School, and Hertford College, Oxford. Gazetted, September 12th, 1914, 2nd Lieut. 9th Battn. Devonshire Regt.; left England, July, 1915, to join 7th Division. Severely wounded September 25th, 1915, Battle of Loos, by machine-gun bullets, and invalided home. On leaving hospital, drafted to 11th Battn. at Wareham, Dorset; January, 1916, transferred to M.G.C., Grantham; March, 1916, posted as Second-in-Command 69th Co., M.G.C., 23rd Division, France. Again severely wounded July 8th, 1916, Battle of Contalmaison, and invalided home. July, 1917, given command of 122nd Co., M.G.C., 41st Division, France; engaged at Ypres (Hollebeke) July 31st, 1917; Tower Hamlets, September 20th, 1917. Drafted to Italian front; served November 17th, 1917, to March, 1918. Present at Somme retreat, March, 1918. Withdrawal from Passchendaele on to Ypres, May, 1918. Invalided home with gastritis, August 8th, 1918. Retired with rank of Major, September 27th, 1919.

HINSHELWOOD, MONTAGUE, 3rd son of Clyde Campbell Hinshelwood; born April 12th, 1899; educated at Berkhamsted School; left England, September, 1915, for St. Petersburg, Russia, where he resided until September, 1917. Returned to England under exceptional difficulties to join H.M. Forces; joined R.F.C. as Cadet, November, 1917; gazetted Flight-Officer Pilot, July, 1918. Went overseas to Italian front, and served with 34th Squadron until June, 1919. Demobilized on return to England.

HINSHELWOOD (otherwise SEMPILL), CHARLES, son of Alfred Ernest Hinshelwood; came over from Australia with the first contingent of the Australian Imperial Forces as a gunner in the Field Artillery; promoted Sergeant. Awarded M.M. Came to England and obtained commission, but did not return to France, the Armistice intervening.

1. **Capt. C. Vernon M. Simpson**, 1/5th King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment.
2. **2nd-Lieut. Francis G. S. Watson**, 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers.
3. **Norman W. Crooke**, London Scottish.
4. **Georges E. H. J. Simpson**, Grenadiers, Belgian Army.

HINSHELWOOD, CYRIL NORMAN, only son of Norman Macmillan Hinshelwood of London; born June 21st, 1897; educated at Westminster City School; elected to a Brackenbury Scholarship in Natural Science in 1915. During the war did important work in chemistry for the Explosives Supply Department of the Ministry of Munitions at Queensferry. Elected to a War Memorial Research Studentship and to a Fellowship tenable for three years as Lecturer in Chemistry at Balliol College, Oxford, and went into residence January, 1919. Awarded distinction in the Honour School of Natural Science, July, 1920.

HURD, ARTHUR JOHN, 4th son of William Hurd of Derby; born March 1st, 1884; enlisted as Private in the 615th M.T. Co., R.A.S.C., February 27th, 1917; served in Ireland. Demobilized November 27th, 1919.

JONES, JACOB HERBERT, eldest son of Isaac Jones of Swansea; born October 11th, 1883; 2nd Lieut. R.A.F., France, 1916-19.

JONES, PERCIVAL JOHN BENBOW, 2nd son of Isaac Jones; born March 14th, 1886; joined 18th (Service) Battn. Welsh Regt. as Private, and served in France with this Battalion from June 1st, 1916, to April 7th, 1918; attained rank of Regimental Q.M.S. After retreat of March, 1918, given temporary commission of 2nd Lieut. in R.A.O.C., and promoted Lieut. in July, 1918. Served on G.H.Q. Staff in France until demobilized, February, 1919. Slightly wounded in the Cambrai attack at Bourlon Wood, November, 1917.

JONES, JAMES GWYTHER, 3rd son of Isaac Jones; born June 9th, 1887; Capt. 18th Battn. Welsh Regt. Wounded, Bourlon Wood, November 23rd, 1917, and mentioned in despatches France, 1914-19.

JONES, ISAAC MEREDITH, 4th son of Isaac Jones; born November 30th, 1888. Rifleman 5th Battn. London Regt. (The London Rifle Brigade). France 1915-16. Invalided out September, 1916.

JONES, MARION ELIZABETH, only daughter of Isaac Jones; Glamorgan Detachment, V.A.D., 1914-20.

SCOTT, REV. HENRI ARNAUD, C.F., Wesleyan Troops, Exeter, during the War.

SCOTT, GEORGE, only son of Rev. Henri Arnaud Scott; served in Burma in the Indian Defence Force, Indian Army. Awarded O.B.E. (Military) for valuable services rendered in connection with military operations in Burma.

SCOTT, ERIC, only son of Albert George Scott of London, Esq.; Capt. R.A.M.C., August 7th, 1915. D.S.O., M.B. Served in Salonika, Aldershot, and France.

SIMPSON, PERCY, only son of Isaac Simpson of Middleton, near Manchester; born March 11th, 1886; Private Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Served in Salonika.

SIMPSON, ROBERT, youngest son of Thomas Simpson of Manchester; born March 7th, 1884; Private "A" Co., 13th Battn. Manchester Regt. Went out to France October, 1915, and on to the Balkans the following month. Returned home February, 1919.

SIMPSON, GEORGES EMILE HUBERT JOSEPH, elder son of Isaac Joseph Simpson of Brussels, Belgium; born August 6th, 1890; joined Regiment of Grenadiers, Belgian Army, 1910; transferred to Reserve 1912. Recalled on the declaration of war, and was killed at the Battle of Schiplaeken; buried there August 26th, 1914.

SIMPSON, CHARLES VERNON MARTIN, younger son of Isaac Simpson of Brook House, near Garstang, Lancashire, Esq.; born October 10th, 1891; educated at Cranleigh School; gazetted 2nd Lieut. in the 5th King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt., July 28th, 1910; promoted Lieut. January 16th, 1913, and Capt. January 18th, 1915. Mobilized with his Battalion, 1/5th King's Own Royal Lancaster Regt., and went out to France in February, 1915. Wounded in the leg, April 24th, 1915. Invalided home; afterwards re-joined, and saw a lot of fighting. Killed in action, July 31st, 1917, at Wieltje. Buried at Vlamertinghe, Belgium.

SIMPSON, CATHERINE EMILY, only daughter of Isaac Simpson; Territorial Nursing Service, September, 1917, to March, 1919.

SIMPSON, STEPHEN, Brevet-Colonel (see Chapter VII.).

SIMPSON, FLORENCE JANE, eldest daughter of Stephen Simpson of East Cliff House, Preston, Lancashire, Esq.; Correspondent in Multiple Claims Dept., Command Pay Office, London, 1917-18; Information Bureau and Pensions Dept., Headquarters Comrades of the Great War, London, 1918-21.

SIMPSON, GERTRUDE ELIZABETH, 4th daughter of Stephen Simpson. At Cairo when war was declared; left Egypt August 4th, 1914, and had adventurous voyage home. On arrival, became Interpreter and Courier to Belgian Refugee Committee in London; afterwards Sub-Manager of Refugee Camp at Earl's Court. Taught French and German to the soldiers at Wellington Barracks during early days of the War. Returned to Egypt, November, 1915, and entered Red Cross Hospital, Gizeh, as Secretary; then became Superintendent of Linen Room. In October, 1917, joined G.H.Q. as Registry Clerk with the R.E.; transferred to R.A.S.C., then to C.P.C. Demobilized 1920.

SIMPSON, BEATRICE OCTAVIA, 6th daughter of Stephen Simpson; served in Red Cross, June 1st, 1915, to February, 1920, as Stores Book-keeper in Cairo, Egypt.

SMITH, STEPHEN EDMUND, 2nd son of George Smith of Mansfield; enlisted under Derby Scheme, November 18th, 1915, then aged 37 years; posted to London Electrical Engineers (R.E.) June 12th, 1916. Served on various London defences until October, 1917, and afterwards in Essex, Conway, and Christchurch, Hants. Demobilized January 27th, 1919.

SMITH, ARTHUR, 3rd and youngest son of George Smith; being a chemist, enlisted in R.A.M.C.; posted to 78th Field Ambulance and went to France; promoted Sergt. and transferred to Salonika. Returned home September, 1918. Demobilized February, 1919. Died July 1st, 1921.

WATSON, FRANCIS GEORGE STUART, only son of Alexander John Watson of Torquay; born January 21st, 1897; entered Sandhurst, August, 1915; gazetted 2nd Lieut. 2nd Battn. Lancashire Fusiliers, January 26th, 1916. After taking three months' course of flying with the R.F.C., joined his regiment and went out to France, June 15th, 1916. Fell in action October 23rd, 1916, at Les Bœufs.

WHELPDALE, ALBERT WILLIAM, son of John Whelpdale of Ollerton, Newark, Notts.; rejected on medical grounds, but in January was accepted for the R.F.C. Clerical Staff, and served at Oxford, and St. Omer, France. Demobilized from Cologne, August, 1919.

WOFFENDEN, ROBY SAXTON, only surviving son of Walter Woffenden of Didsbury, Manchester; born April 12th, 1885; joined the R.N.A.S. December 31st, 1916, after having been twice rejected on medical grounds; transferred to the R.N.V.R. April, 1917. At the time of being paid off was Petty Officer and Acting Master-at-Arms.

APPENDIX IX.

Genealogical Tables.

SIMPSON OF GISBURNE FOREST.

John SYMSONE =

John SYMSONE *alias* Jenkine = ... of the Mearesicke in Gisburne, co. York, husbandman. Bur. 8 April, 1586, at Gisburne. Will dated 12 April, 1578; proved 7 May, 1586, at York.

Alice. Marr. John BROWNE of Gedbecke, township Paythorne, parish Gisburne, and had a son, Richard BROWNE of Gaitbecke, and a dau., Agnes, who married Henry CARR. Both children mentioned in their uncle's will.

Richard SIMPSON of Mearsyke, husbandman. Bur. 5 July, 1597, at Gisburne. Will dated 3 July, 1597; proved 1 Sept., 1597, at York. Mentioned in his father's will. = ... "Uxor Richi SIMPSON." Bur. 4 Feb., 1587, at Gisburne.

Margaret. Marr. Robert SCOTT of Halbancke, Bolton by Bolland, and had issue. Mentioned in her father's will.

Agnes. Marr. Robert BATTERSBIE of the Gill, Bolton by Bolland, and had issue. Mentioned in her father's will.

John SYMPSON of Mearesike, husbandman. Bapt. 18 Aug., 1567, at Gisburne. Bur. there 17 Feb., 1614. Will dated 27 Dec., 1614; proved 5 Oct., 1615, at York. Mentioned in wills of his father and sister-in-law, Mald Foster. = Agnes, dau. of Henry FOSTER of Hengill, Gisburne, and sister of Mald FOSTER of Over Marsike (will dated 1610). Mentioned in her will.

William SIMPSON. Mentioned in his father's will.

Agnes. Mentioned in her father's will.

Elizabeth. Bur. 14 June, 1582, at Gisburne.

Richard SIMPSON of Forest, Gisburne. Bapt. 9 Dec., 1590, at Gisburne. Bur. there 19 Jan. 1645. Mentioned in his grandfather's and father's wills. = Ann WILKINSON. Marr. 2 Jan., 1619, at Gisburne. Bur. there 11 Sept., 1645.

Stephen SIMPSON of Hengill, Forest of Gisburne. Bur. 16 Feb., 1668, at Gisburne. Administration at York, 18 March, 1668. Mentioned in will of his aunt, Mald Foster. = Margaret FOSTER. Marr. 4 June, 1629, at Gisburne. Bur. there 5 April, 1649.

issue.

a *a*

Henry SIMPSON. Bapt. 14 Dec., 1604, at Gisburne.

William SIMPSON. Bapt. 5 March, 1608, at Gisburne.

William SIMPSON. Bapt. 12 May, 1614, at Gisburne.

Jenet. Bapt. 5 May, 1597, at Gisburne.

Elizabeth. Marr. Oliver CARR of Brownebancke, co. York, 14 May, 1621, at Gisburne, and had issue.

Isabel. Bur. 31 Oct., 1603, at Gisburne.

a | *a*

John SIMPSON. Bur. 28 Sept., 1642, at Gisburne.

Richard SIMPSON. Bapt. 13 Nov., 1632, at Gisburne.

Thomas SIMPSON of Hengill. Bur. 26 April, 1683, at Gisburne. = Alice, dau. of James WILKINSON. Marr. 30 Oct., 1663, at Gisburne.

Stephen SIMPSON of Hengill, gentleman. Bur. 5 May, 1743, at Gisburne. Mentioned in wills of his uncle Stephen and his brother James. = Letticia BROWNE. Marr. 7 June, 1692, at Gisburne. Bur. there 26 May, 1722.

James SIMPSON of Rimington in Gisburne, yeoman. Bapt. 8 Oct., 1665, at Gisburne. Bur. there 12 March, 1716. Will dated 4 March, 1716; proved 2 April, 1717, at York. = Mary..... Named in husband's will, executrix. I think she afterwards married James READ on 31 Oct., 1717, at Bolton by Bolland.

Alice. Died young.

Letticia. Marr. Henry WINDLE of Otterburne, co. York.

William SIMPSON of Flass, in Gisburne. Bapt. 14 May, 1638, at Gisburne. Bur. there 1 Feb., 1698. Administration at York, 20 May, 1699. = Jane JACKSON of Mill Gill, Gisburne. Marr. 9 Sept., 1675, at Gisburne. Bur. there 8 Jan., 1706. Administration at York, 20 May, 1707.

Stephen SIMPSON of Hengill. Bapt. 8 Aug., 1641, at Gisburne. Bur. there 16 Feb., 1698. Will dated 3 Feb., 1698; proved 18 March, 1699, at York.

Jennett. Marr. Edward BILLINGTON of Bolton by Bolland, and had issue.

Agnes. Marr. ..... CLARKE and had issue.

1

Margaret PRIESTLEY of Tosside, Gisburne. Marr. 5 Nov., 1709, at Gisburne. Bur. there 14 Dec., 1725. = Stephen SIMPSON of Cracow Hill, Gisburne, yeoman. Bur. 15 Mar., 1766, at Gisburne. Mentioned in will of his uncle Stephen.

2

= Isabel BRENNAND. Marr. 12 June, 1729, at Gisburne. Bur. there 19 Jan., 1731. Administration at York, 8 Feb., 1731.

Thomas SIMPSON of Cracow Hill. Bur. 7 April, 1755, at Gisburne. Administration at York, 7 May, 1755. Mentioned in will of his uncle Stephen.

William SIMPSON. Bur. 1 March, 1712, at Gisburne.

Stephen SIMPSON of Champion, par. Mitton, co. York. (?) Bur. 21 Aug., 1789, at Bolton by Bolland. Marr. Ann....., and had issue.

William SIMPSON of Moor Close, Paythorne, Gisburne, yeoman, afterwards of Greta Bridge, co. Lanc. Born 1716. Bur. 7 Dec., 1788, at Kirkby Kendal, Westmorland. Administration at York, 23 Dec., 1788. = Elizabeth DEWHURST of Aigden, Gisburne. Marr. 7 April, 1743, at Gisburne.

issue (*see later pedigree*).

Thomas SIMPSON of Cracow Hill. Born 1723. Marr. Alice DOBSON of Mitton, and had issue.

James SIMPSON. Bur. 11 Dec., 1725, at Gisburne.

Sarah. Marr. John FELL of Stephen Moor, Slaidburn, and had issue.

Margaret. Died young.

William SIMPSON of Tosside, Gisburne. Bur. 13 Nov., 1712, at Bolton by Bolland. Mentioned in will of his uncle Stephen.

Robert SIMPSON. Bur. 21 Dec., 1687, at Bolton by Bolland.

Elizabeth. Of the Moss in Sawley "demaign." Bur. 4 May, 1715, at Bolton by Bolland. Mentioned in will of her uncle Stephen.

Margaret. Mentioned in will of her uncle Stephen.

SIMPSON OF GRETA BRIDGE

William SIMPSON of Greta Bridge, co. Lancaster, formerly of Moor Close, Paythorne, parish Gisburne, co. York, yeoman. Born 1716. Died Dec., 1788, aged 72 years, at Helsington, Kirkby Kendal, Westmoreland. Bur. 7 Dec., 1788, at Kendal. Administration at York, 23 Dec., 1788. = Elizabeth DEWHURST of Aigden, parish Gisburne. Marr. 7 April, 1743, at Gisburne. Died before 7 March, 1780.

John SIMPSON of Lancaster. Born about 1744. Joined 2nd Dragoons. Marr. and had issue. His widow afterwards marr. ..... Robinson.

1

Elizabeth, only dau. and heiress of Edmund PORTER of Kendal, formerly of Eamont Bridge, Westmoreland, and Mary his wife. Born 2 Jan., 1755, at Yanwith, Westmoreland. Marr. 7 March, 1780, at Friends' Meeting House, Lancaster. Died 1814. Bur. at Friends' Meeting House, Preston. = Stephen SIMPSON of Preston, formerly of Greta Bridge, clockmaker. Born 1752 at Gisburne. Died 23 Nov., 1821, aged 69 years. Bur. at parish church, Preston. = 2 Mary GIBSON. Marr. 26 Nov., 1817, at Preston.

1—William SIMPSON of Bingley, co. York. Marr. three times, and had issue, *a quo* SIMPSON of Exeter.

2—Thomas SIMPSON of Preston. Marr., and had issue, *a quo* SIMPSON of U.S.A. and Manchester.

3—Mary. Marr., 1st, William SUTTON of Preston, and had issue; 2nd, Joseph MELLING of Preston; 3rd, Capt. James TAYLOR of Glasgow.

4—John SIMPSON. Died 4 April, 1801, aged 16, at Greta Bridge.

5—Elizabeth. Marr. William PENNINGTON of Preston, and had issue.

6—Stephen SIMPSON of Mansfield, Notts. Marr., and had issue.

7—Edmund SIMPSON of Preston. Marr., and had issue.

8—Margaret. Marr. Edward ALLEN of Leigh, co. Lancaster, and had issue.

9—Isaac SIMPSON of East Cliff House, Preston. Born 15 Sept., 1800. Marr., and had issue.
(My grandfather.)

SIMPSON OF U.S.A.

Thomas SIMPSON of Preston, co. Lancaster. Born 27 Sept., 1782, at Greta Bridge. Died 5 Sept., 1843. Bur. parish church, Preston. = Agnes, dau. of James MOORE of Caton, co. Lancaster; and Agnes his wife, marr. 15 July, 1805, at Caton. Died 4 March, 1858. Bur. at the cemetery, Preston.

John SIMPSON. Died young.

Stephen SIMPSON. Died unmarried.

James SIMPSON of Manchester, afterwards of Chesterfield, Derby. Born 24 May, 1816. Died 6 Aug., 1890. Bur. at Harpurhey cemetery, Manchester. = Catherine PENDLEBURY of Tyldesley, co. Lancaster. Born 27 Dec., 1812. Marr. at Prestwich, Manchester. Died 31 Dec., 1875.

Agnes. Died unmarried.
Elizabeth. Died unmarried.
Jane. Marr. John Turner BOND of Kingston, U.S.A., and had issue.
Mary PORTER. Marr. Edmund SIMPSON of Preston, d.s.p.

James SIMPSON of Mc Keesport, Allegheny Co., Pa., U.S.A. Born 9 June, 1841. Died 24 Dec., 1906. Bur. at Versailles cemetery, Mc Keesport. = Abigail, dau. of John HILL of Manchester. Born 19 Oct., 1842. Marr. 26 April, 1862. Died 15 March, 1911. Bur. at Versailles cemetery.

Pauline. Born 3 Feb., 1863. Died 22 Oct., 1907. Unmarried.

James Albert SIMPSON. Died in infancy.

James Alfred SIMPSON of New York City. Born 2 Feb., 1866. Marr. Martha B. BROWN of New York.

Agnes Annie. Died in infancy.

Thomas SIMPSON of Mc Keesport. Born 9 June, 1869.

Annie. Born 14 Nov., 1871. Died 3 Dec., 1917. Unmarried.

Florence. Married George W. DALES of Duquesne.

Henry Isaac SIMPSON of Richmond, Virginia. Born 23 Feb., 1877. Marr. Gertrude STEWART of Mc Keesport, and has one daughter, Helen Abigail.

Charles SIMPSON. Born 23 June, 1880. Died 16 Jan., 1902.

Diana Elizabeth Abigail of Mc Keesport.

Thomas SIMPSON of Mc Keesport. Born 14 July, 1874. Unmarried.

Isaac SIMPSON of Pittsburg. Born 23 Oct., 1875. Marr. Nelly, dau. of William and Margaret TULLY of Mc Keesport, and has four sons.

Edmund SIMPSON of Wilmerding, Pa. Born 23 Jan., 1877. Marr. Alice, dau. of William and Rachel TOMLINSON of Mc Keesport. Died 13 March, 1907, and had a son and a daughter.

Stephen SIMPSON. Died young.

Stephen SIMPSON of Mc Keesport. Born 21 Feb., 1851. = Annie WILKINSON, dau. of Stephen SIMPSON of Mansfield, co. Notts., and Eliza his wife. Born 10 Nov., 1851. Marr. 17 June, 1873.

Thomas SIMPSON of Manchester. Marr., and had issue.

Isaac SIMPSON of Manchester. Marr., and has issue.

Agnes. Died unmarried.

Mary Jane. Died unmarried.

Elizabeth . *Vivens* 1922.

Allan James SIMPSON of Mc Keesport. Born 10 Oct., 1884. Marr. Regina, dau. of George and Elizabeth HABEN of Mc Keesport, and has one son.

Agnes. Died young.

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